

R. GOSCINNY **Asterix** A. UDERZO

Asterix

AND THE
MAGIC CARPET

Written and illustrated by Albert UDERZO



GOSCINNY AND UDERZO

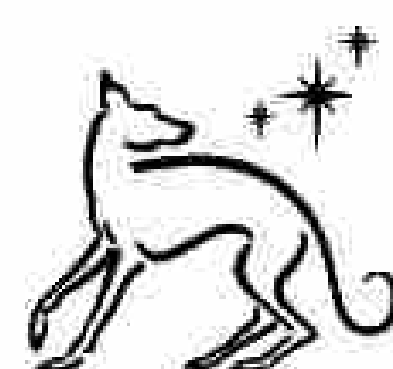
PRESENT

An Asterix Adventure

ASTERIX AND THE MAGIC CARPET

Written and Illustrated by ALBERT UDERZO

Translated by Anthea Bell *and* Derek Hockridge



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AN ORION CHILDREN'S EBOOK

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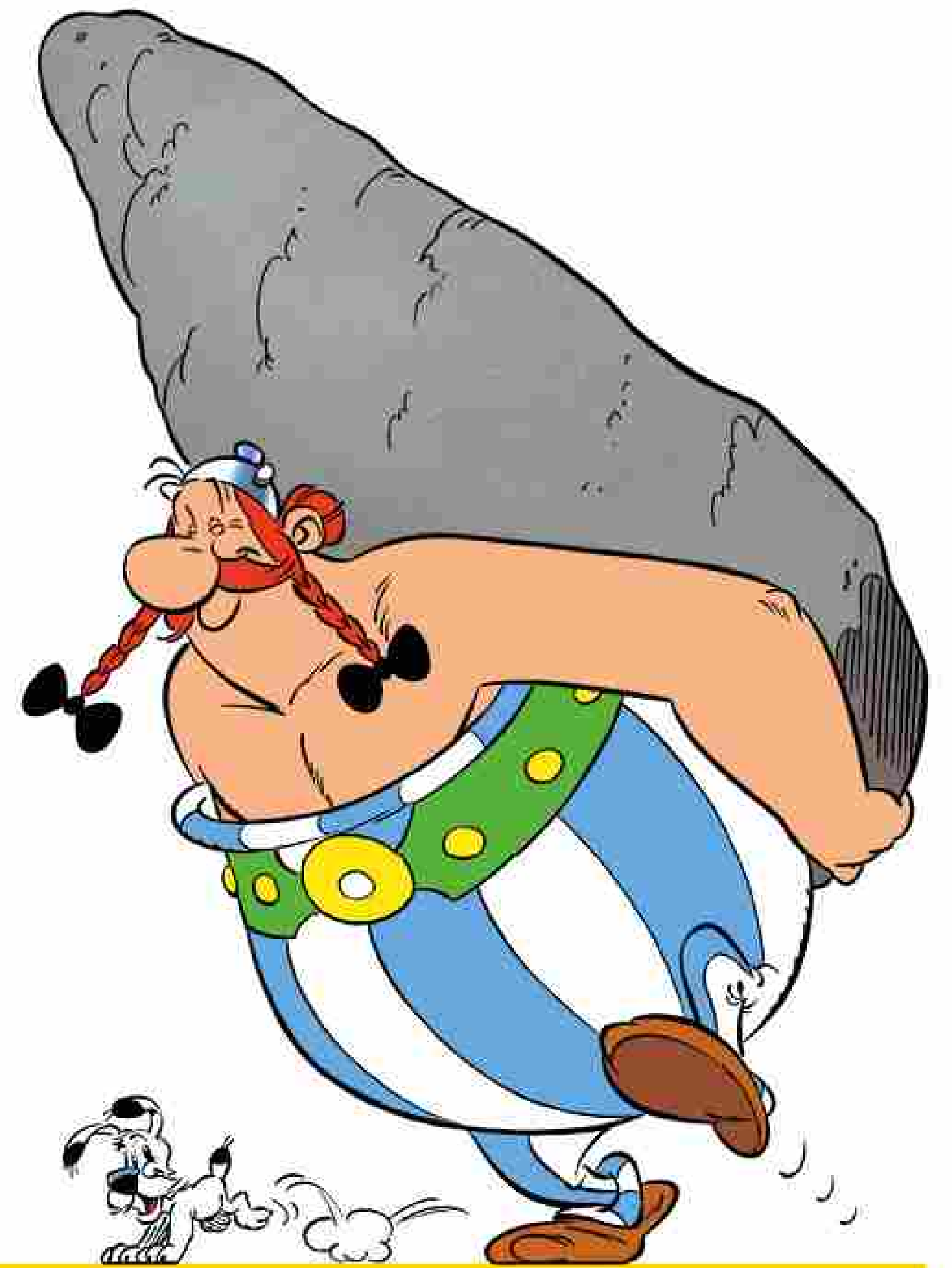
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THE YEAR IS 50 BC. GAUL IS ENTIRELY OCCUPIED BY THE ROMANS. WELL, NOT ENTIRELY ... ONE SMALL VILLAGE OF INDOMITABLE GAULS STILL HOLDS OUT AGAINST THE INVADERS. AND LIFE IS NOT EASY FOR THE ROMAN LEGIONARIES WHO GARRISON THE FORTIFIED CAMPS OF TOTORUM, AQUARIUM, LAUDANUM AND COMPENDIUM ...



ASTERIX, THE HERO OF THESE ADVENTURES. A SHREWD, CUNNING LITTLE WARRIOR, ALL PERILOUS MISSIONS ARE IMMEDIATELY ENTRUSTED TO HIM. ASTERIX GETS HIS SUPERHUMAN STRENGTH FROM THE MAGIC POTION BREWED BY THE DRUID GETAFIX . . .



OBELIX, ASTERIX'S INSEPARABLE FRIEND. A MENHIR DELIVERY MAN BY TRADE, ADDICTED TO WILD BOAR. OBELIX IS ALWAYS READY TO DROP EVERYTHING AND GO OFF ON A NEW ADVENTURE WITH ASTERIX – SO LONG AS THERE'S WILD BOAR TO EAT, AND PLENTY OF FIGHTING. HIS CONSTANT COMPANION IS DOGMATIX, THE ONLY KNOWN CANINE ECOLOGIST, WHO HOWLS WITH DESPAIR WHEN A TREE IS CUT DOWN.



GETAFIX, THE VENERABLE VILLAGE DRUID, GATHERS MISTLETOE AND BREWS MAGIC POTIONS. HIS SPECIALITY IS THE POTION WHICH GIVES THE DRINKER SUPERHUMAN STRENGTH. BUT GETAFIX ALSO HAS OTHER RECIPES UP HIS SLEEVE . . .



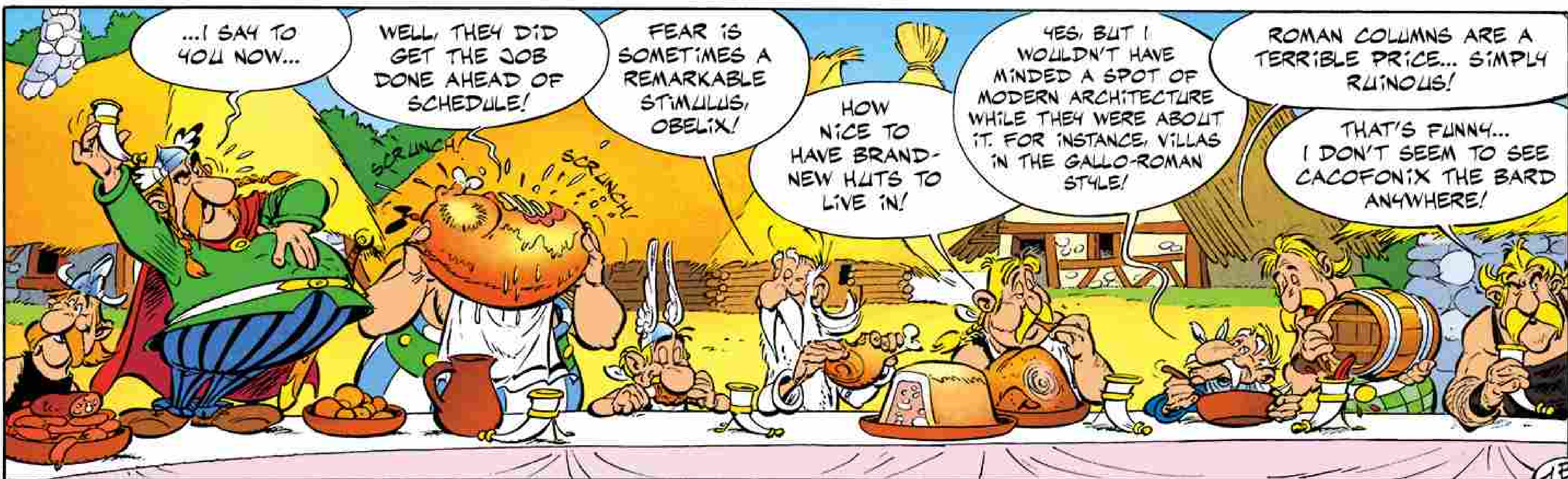
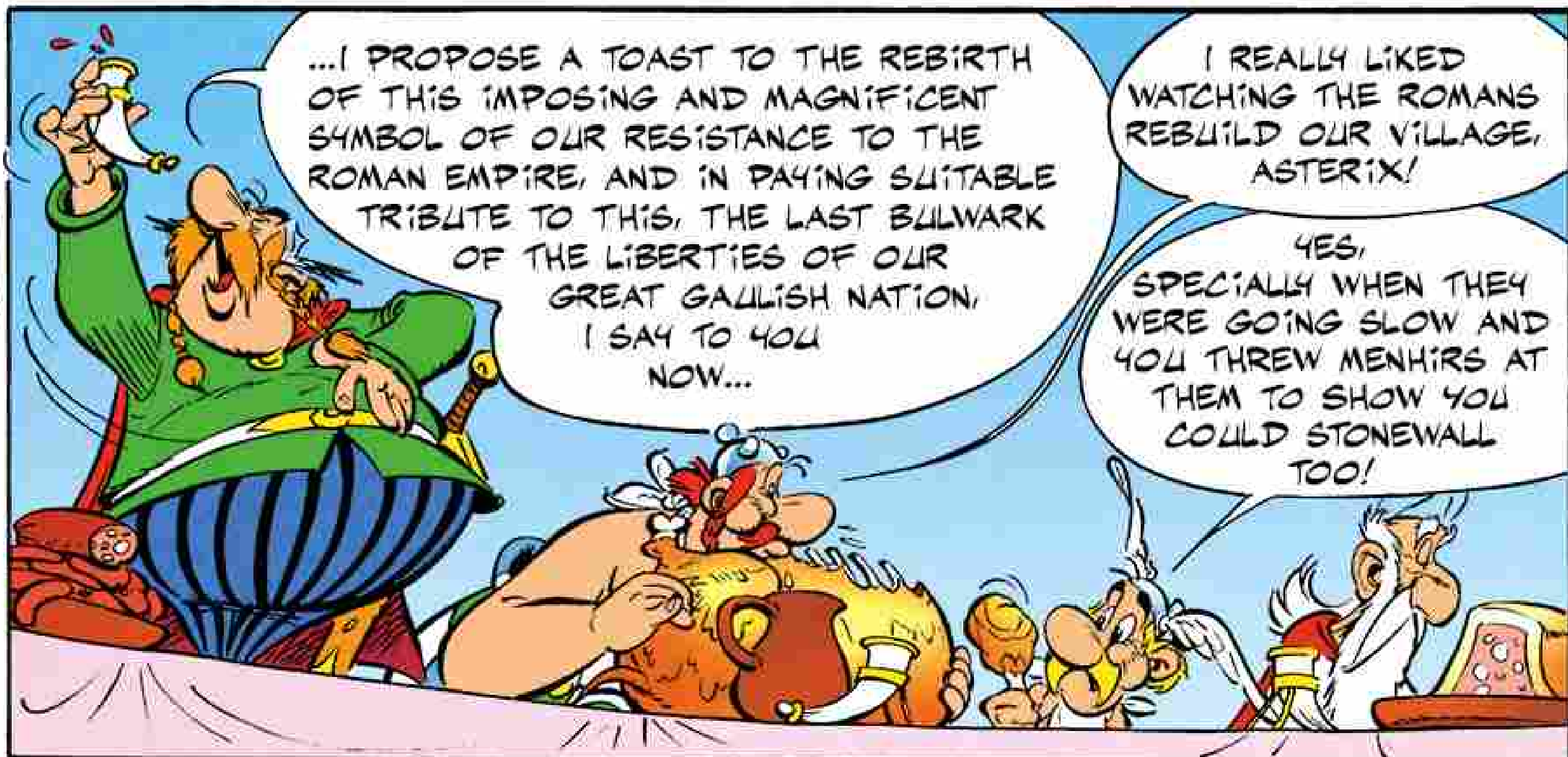
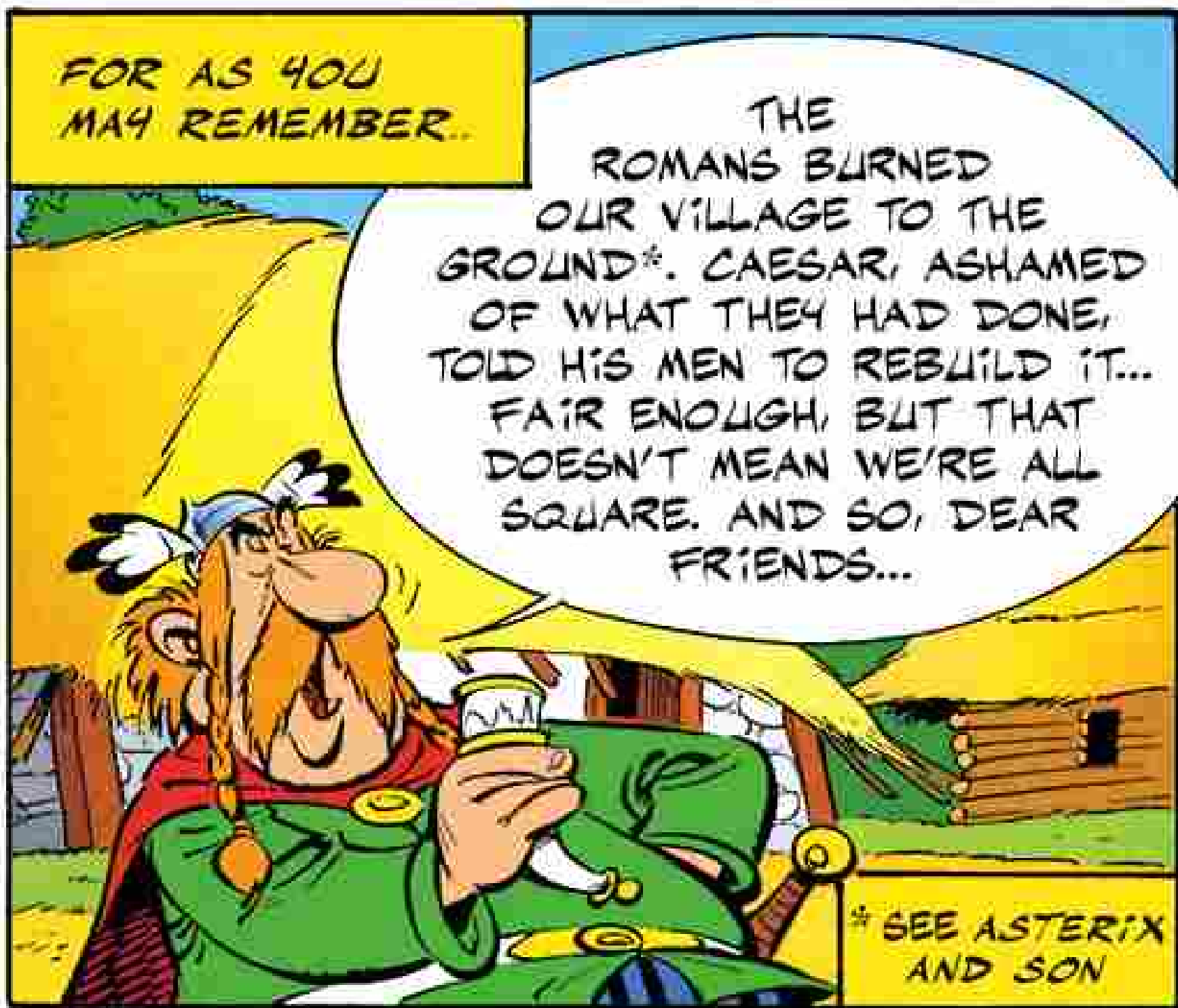
CACOFONIX, THE BARD. OPINION IS DIVIDED AS TO HIS MUSICAL GIFTS. CACOFONIX THINKS HE'S A GENIUS. EVERYONE ELSE THINKS HE'S UNSPEAKABLE. BUT SO LONG AS HE DOESN'T SPEAK, LET ALONE SING, EVERYBODY LIKES HIM . . .



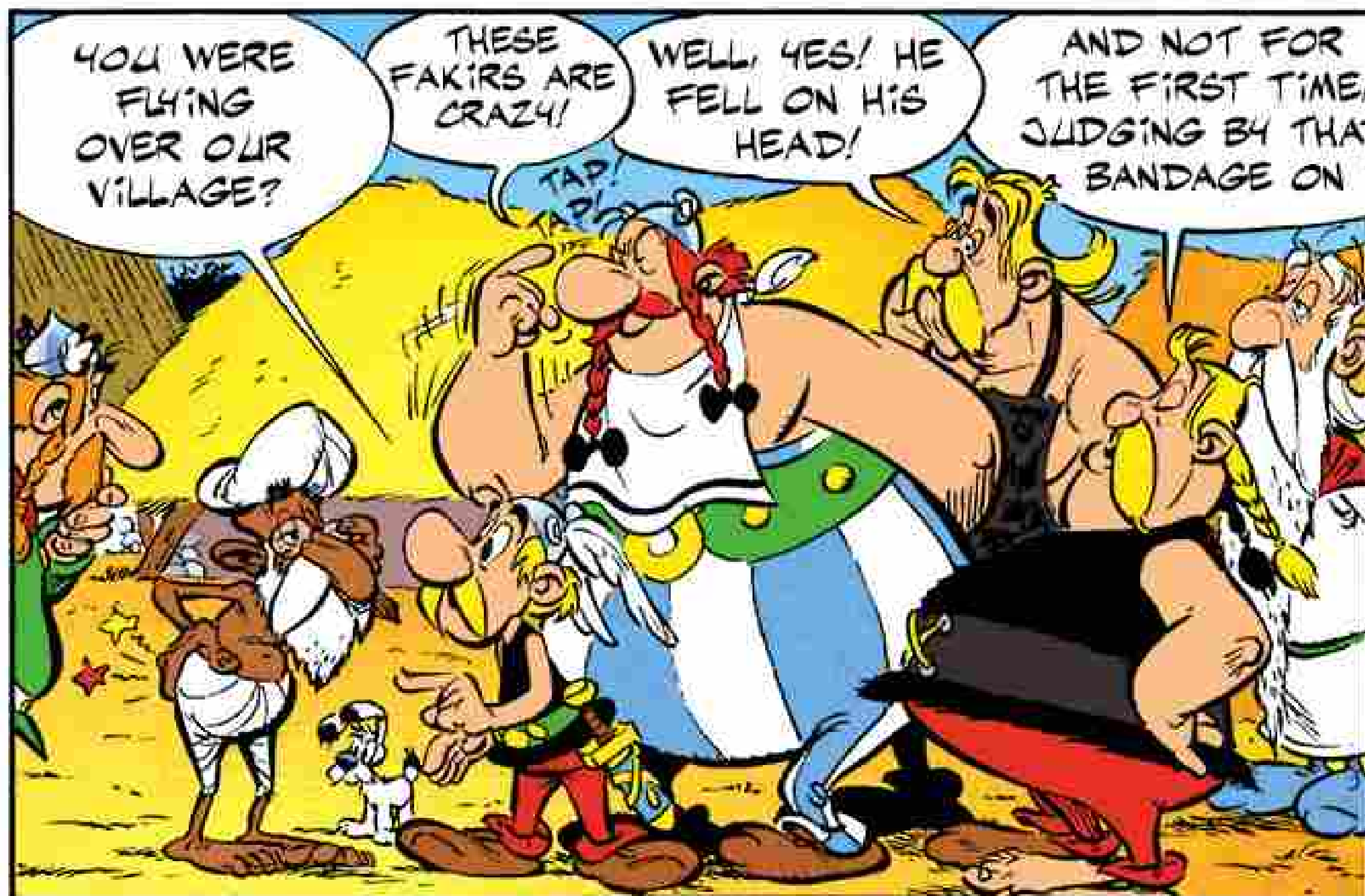
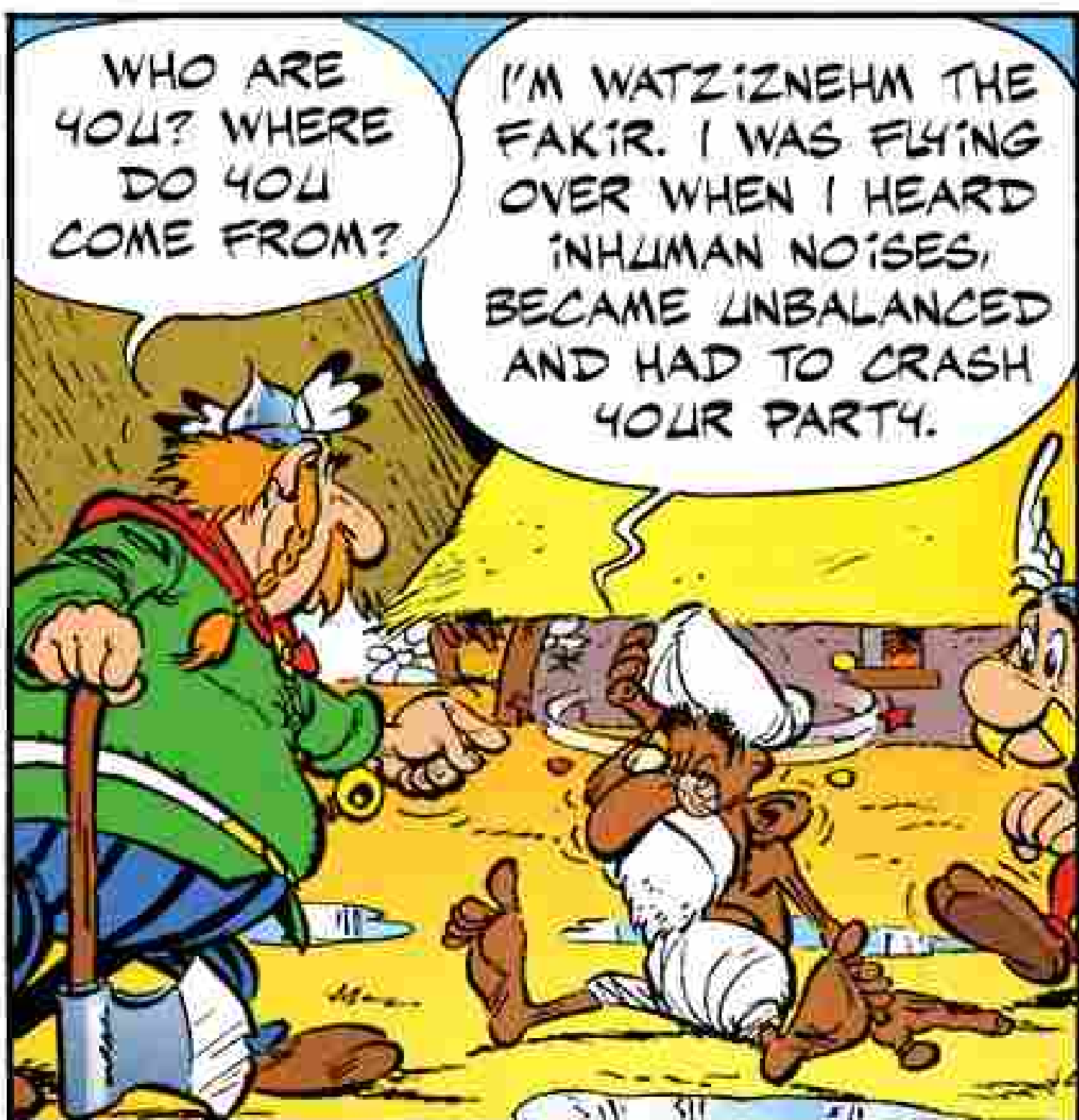
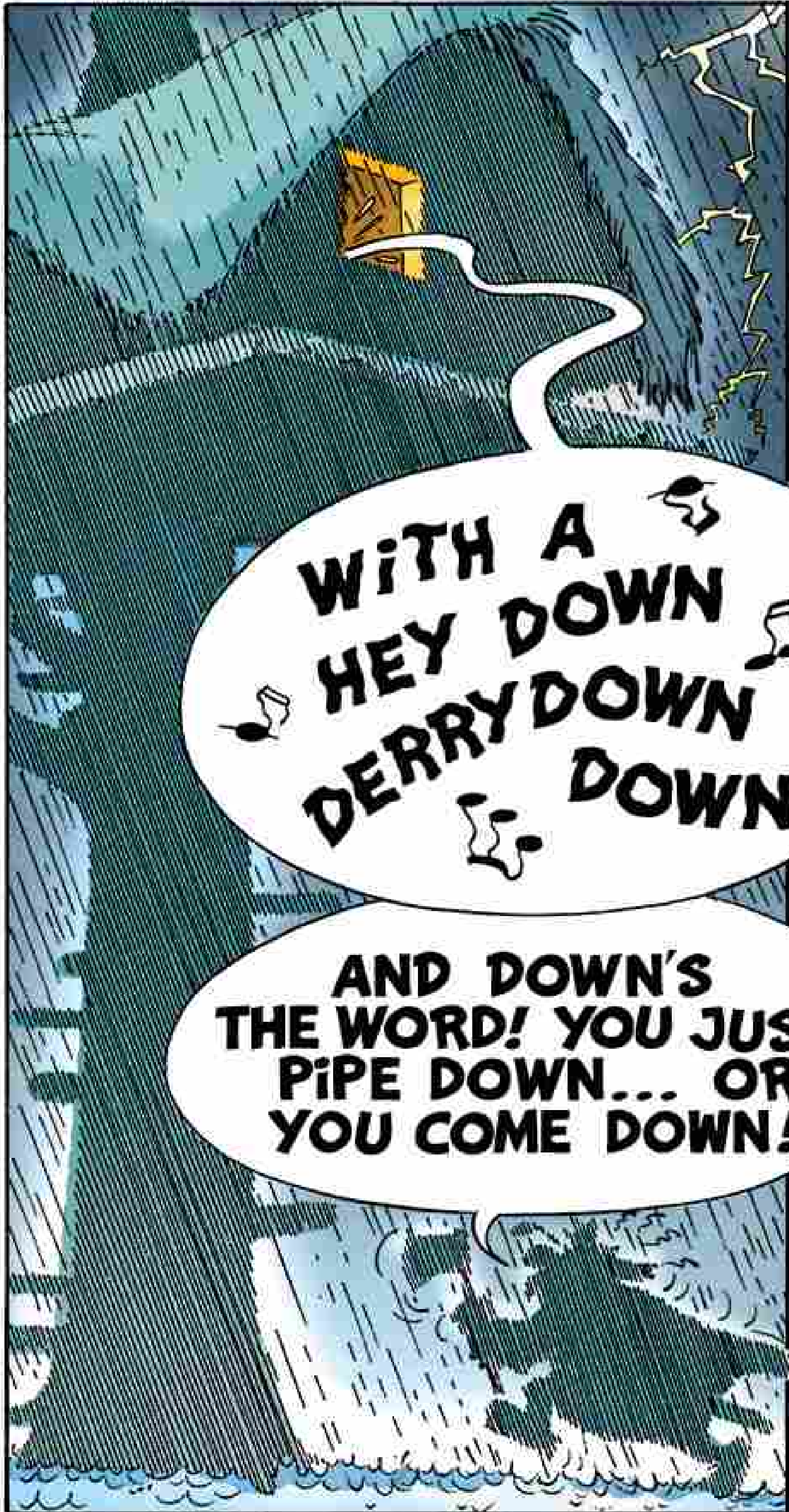
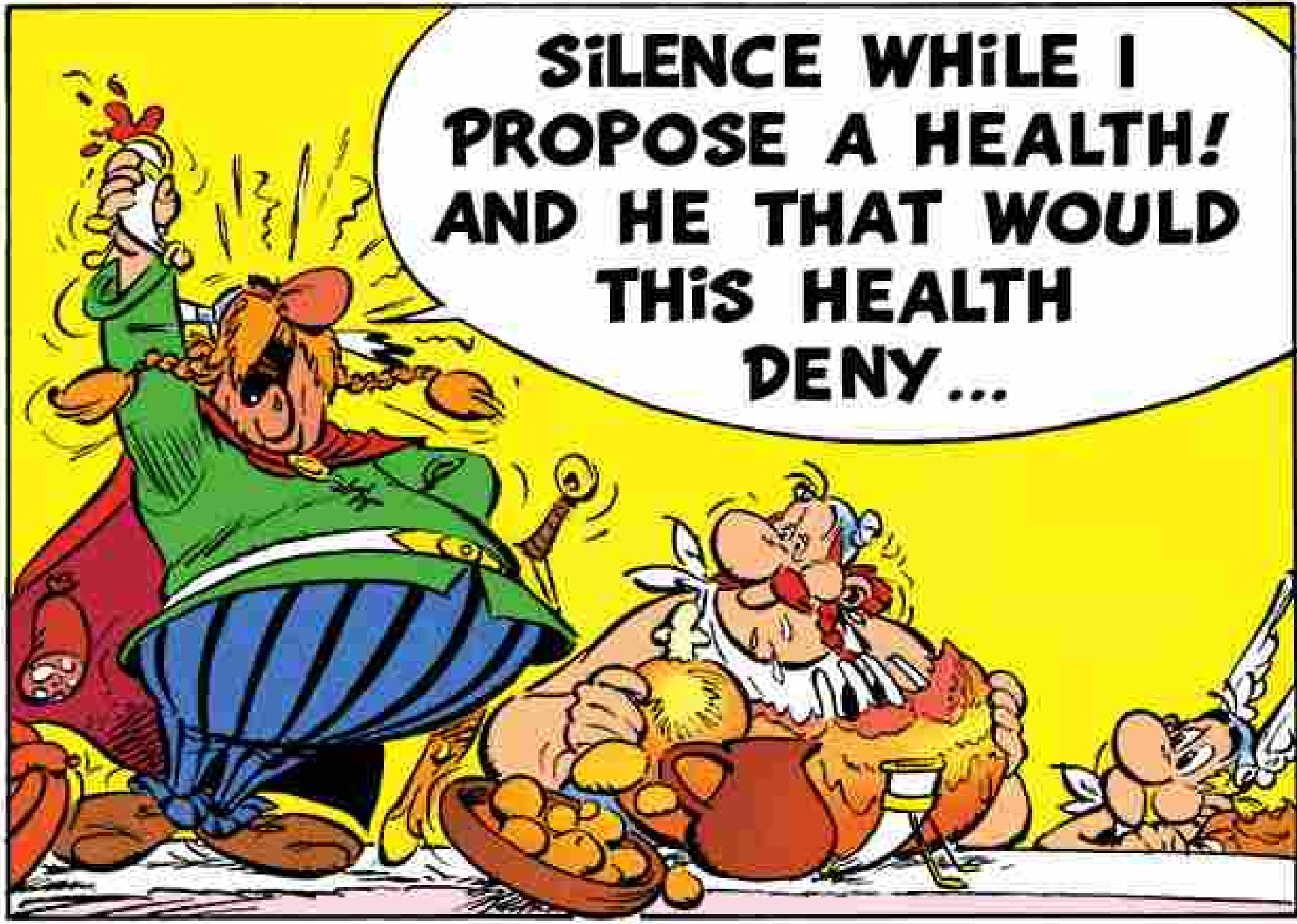
FINALLY, VITALSTATISTIX, THE CHIEF OF THE TRIBE. MAJESTIC, BRAVE AND HOT-TEMPERED, THE OLD WARRIOR IS RESPECTED BY HIS MEN AND FEARED BY HIS ENEMIES. VITALSTATISTIX HIMSELF HAS ONLY ONE FEAR, HE IS AFRAID THE SKY MAY FALL ON HIS HEAD TOMORROW. BUT AS HE ALWAYS SAYS, TOMORROW NEVER COMES.

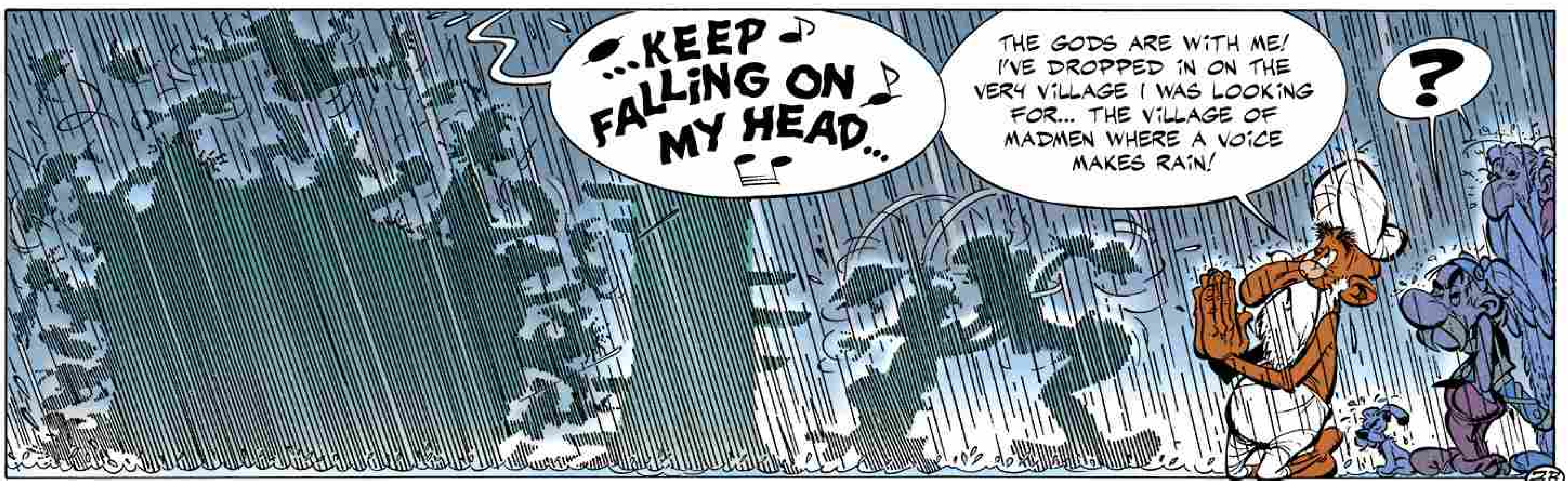
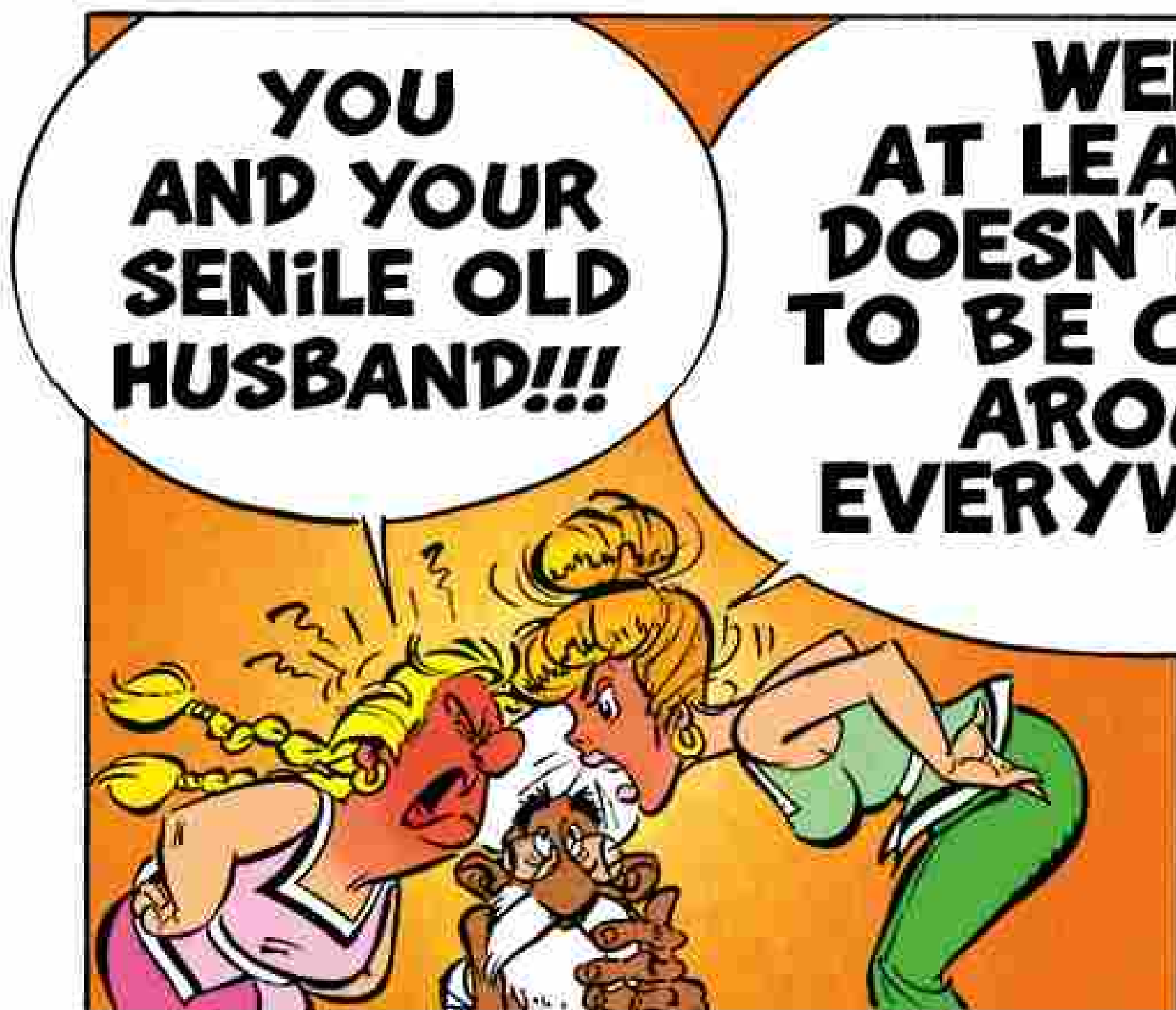
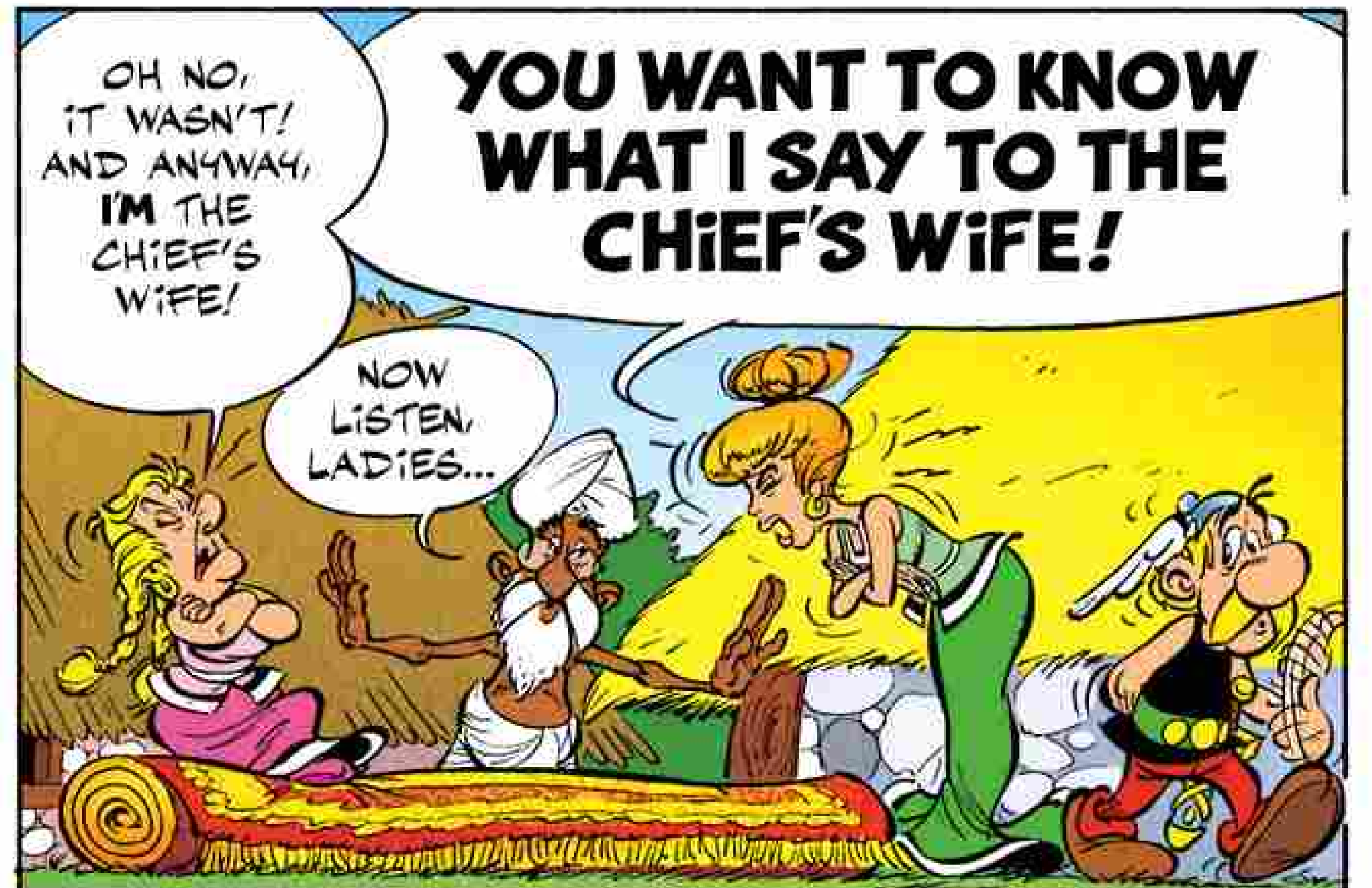
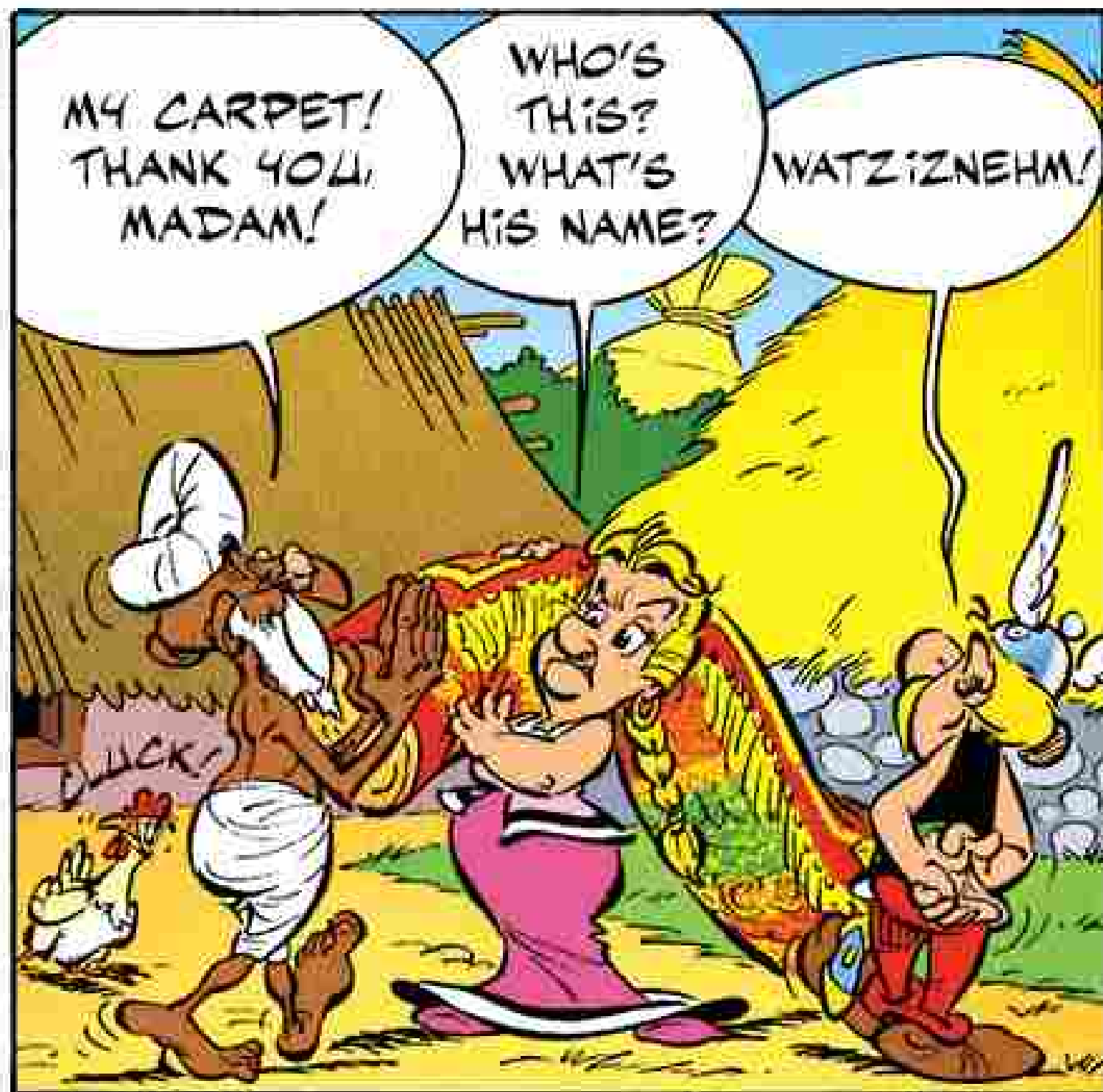


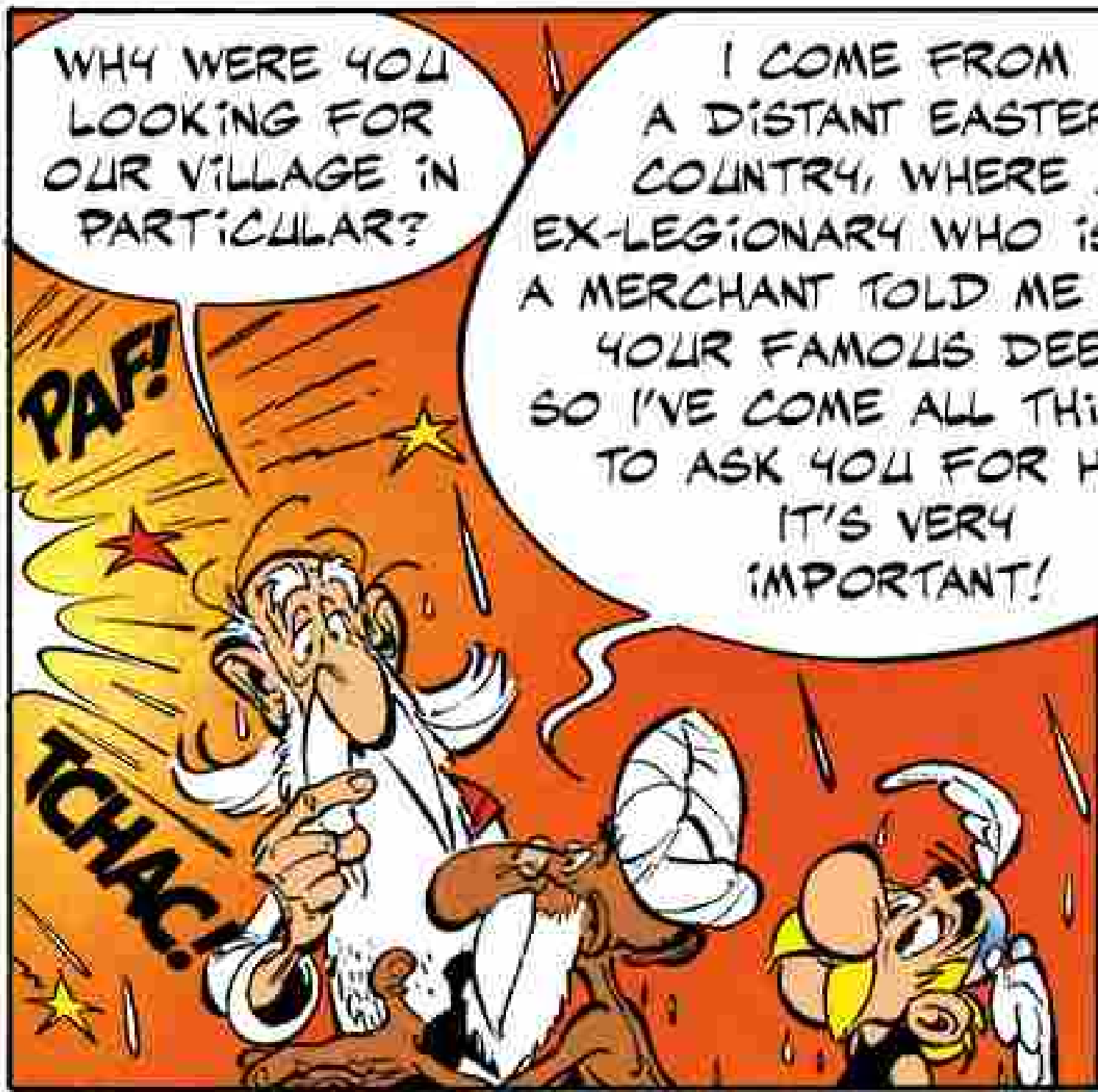
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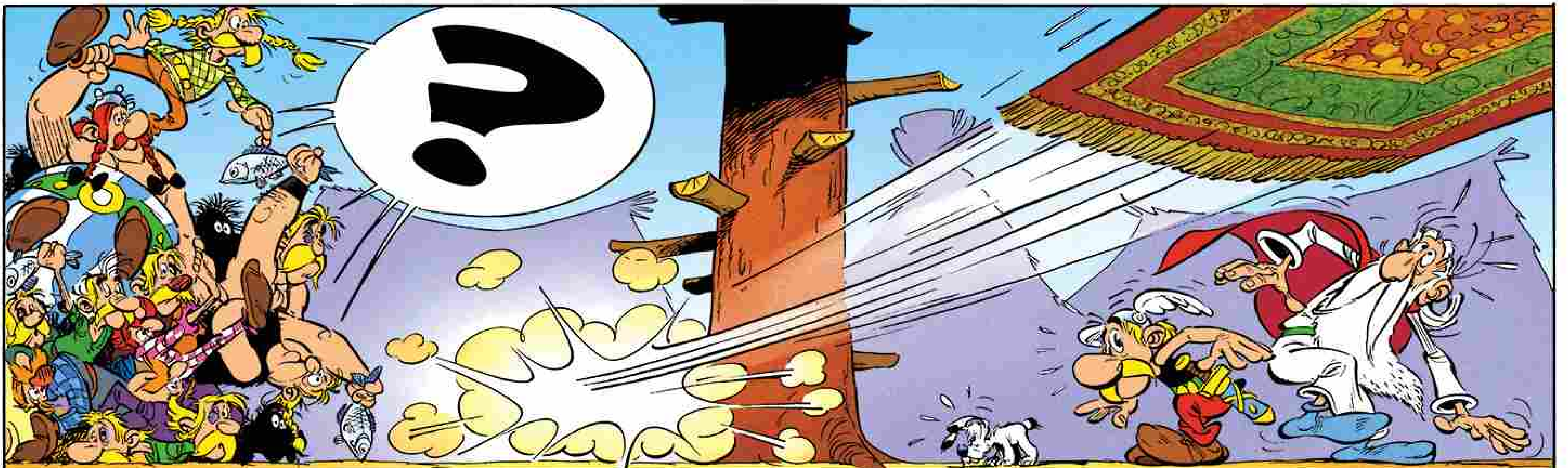
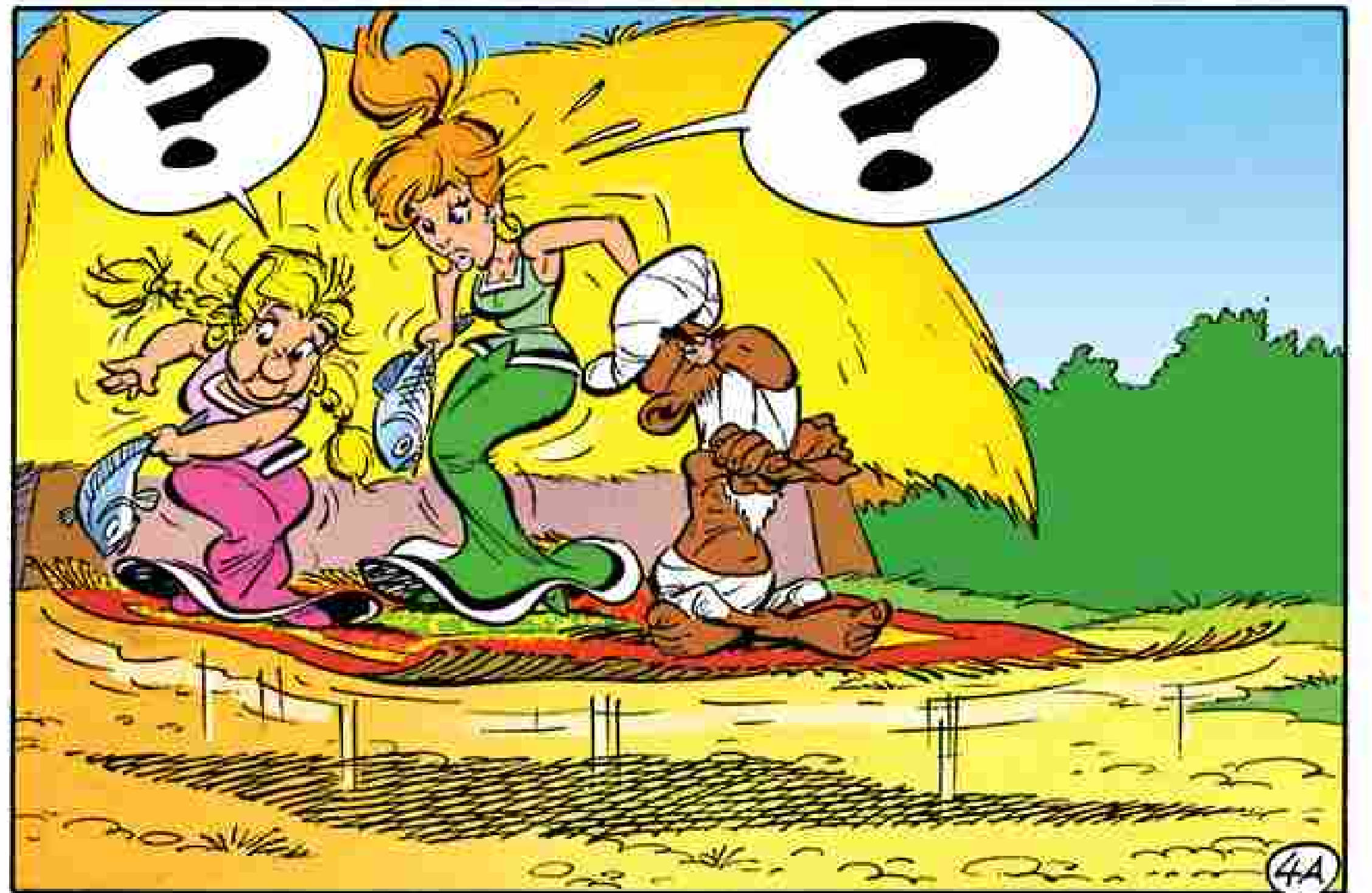
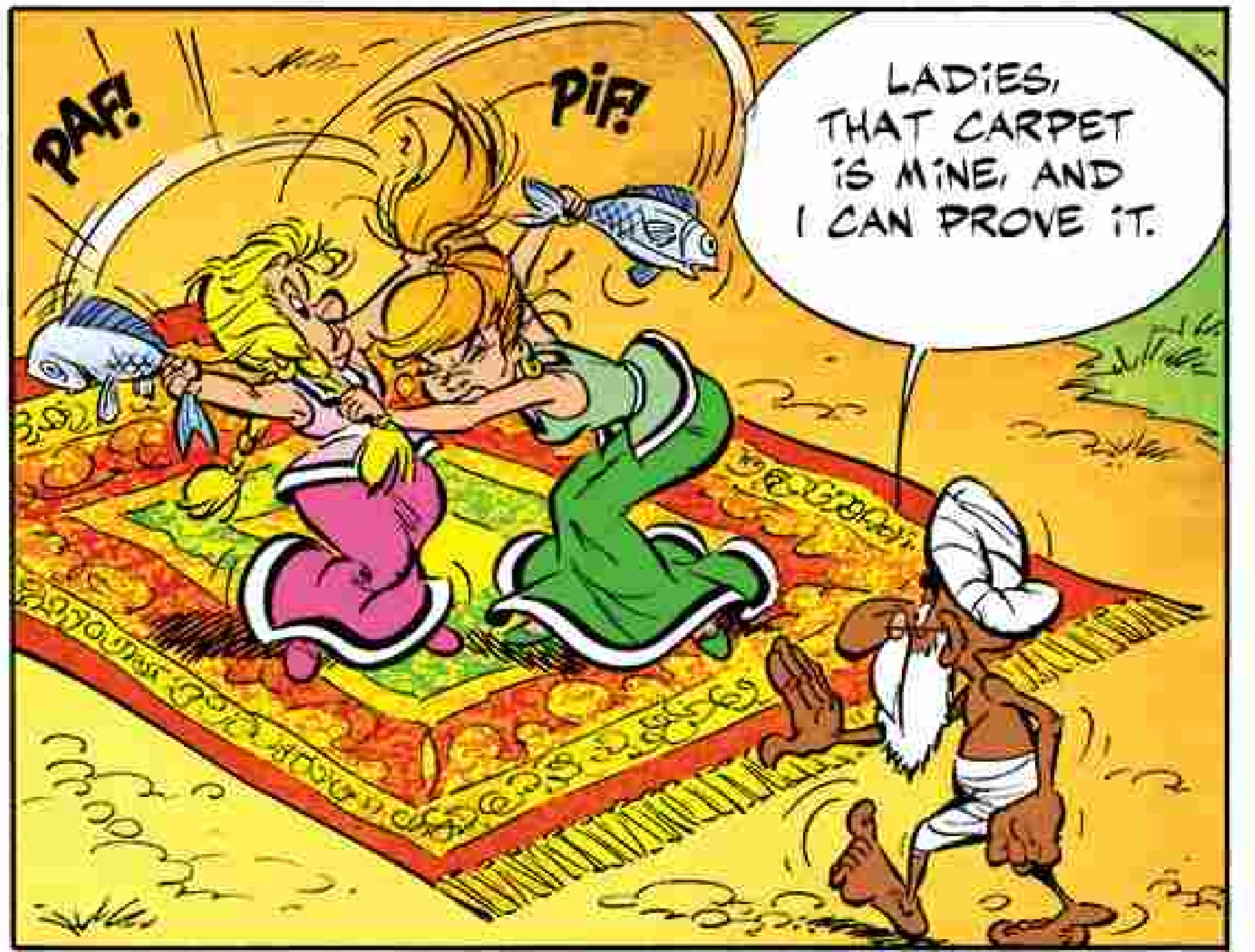
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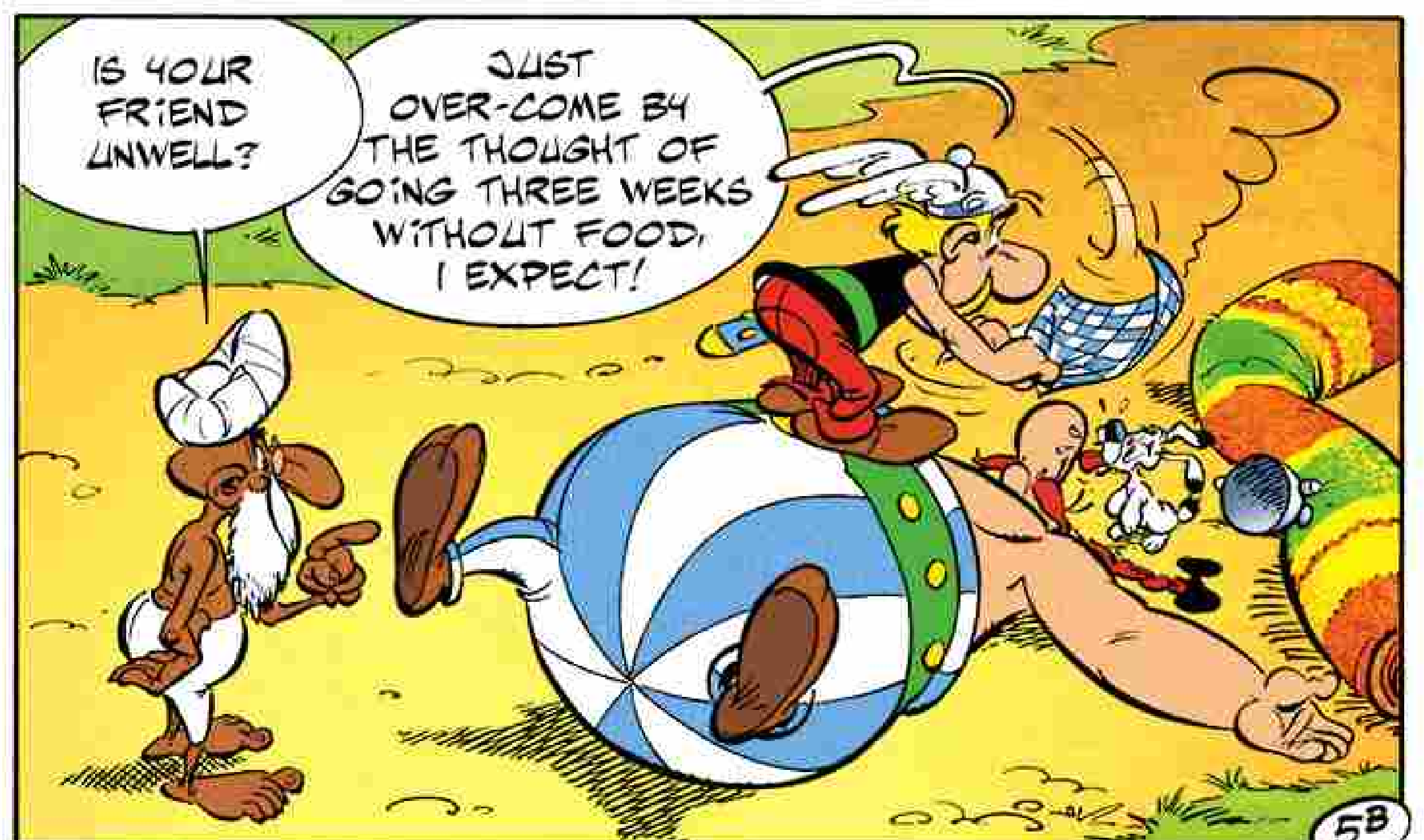
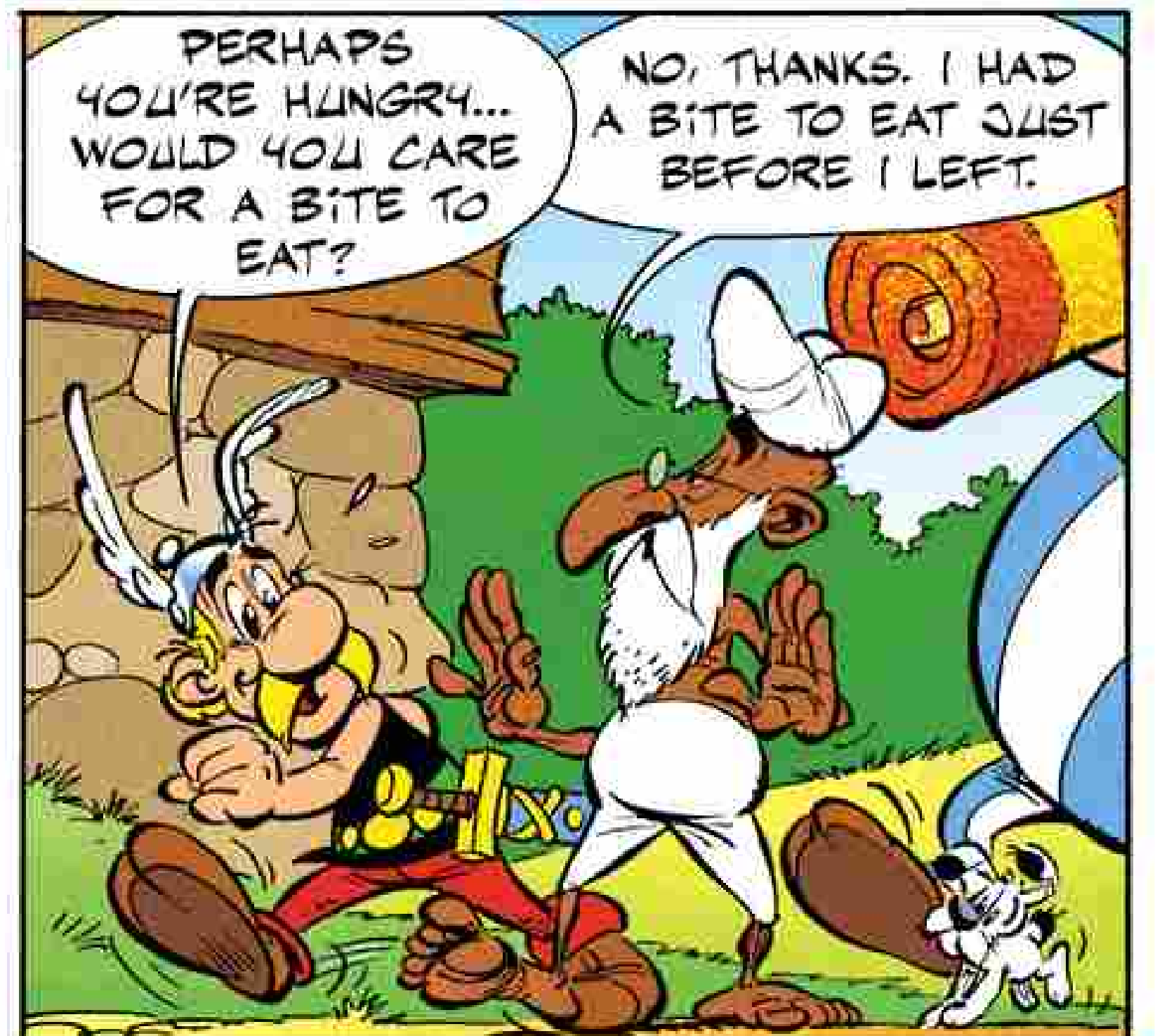
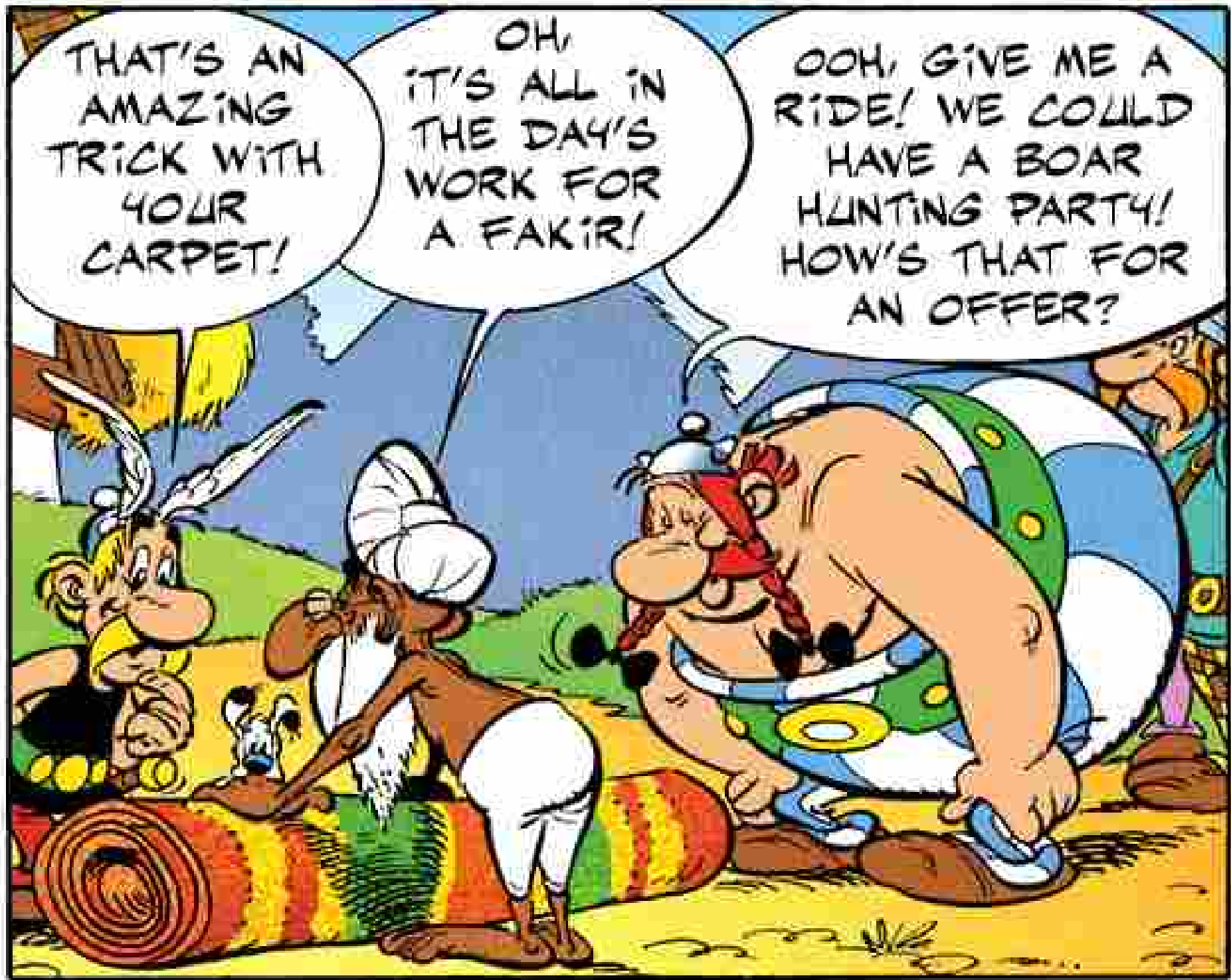


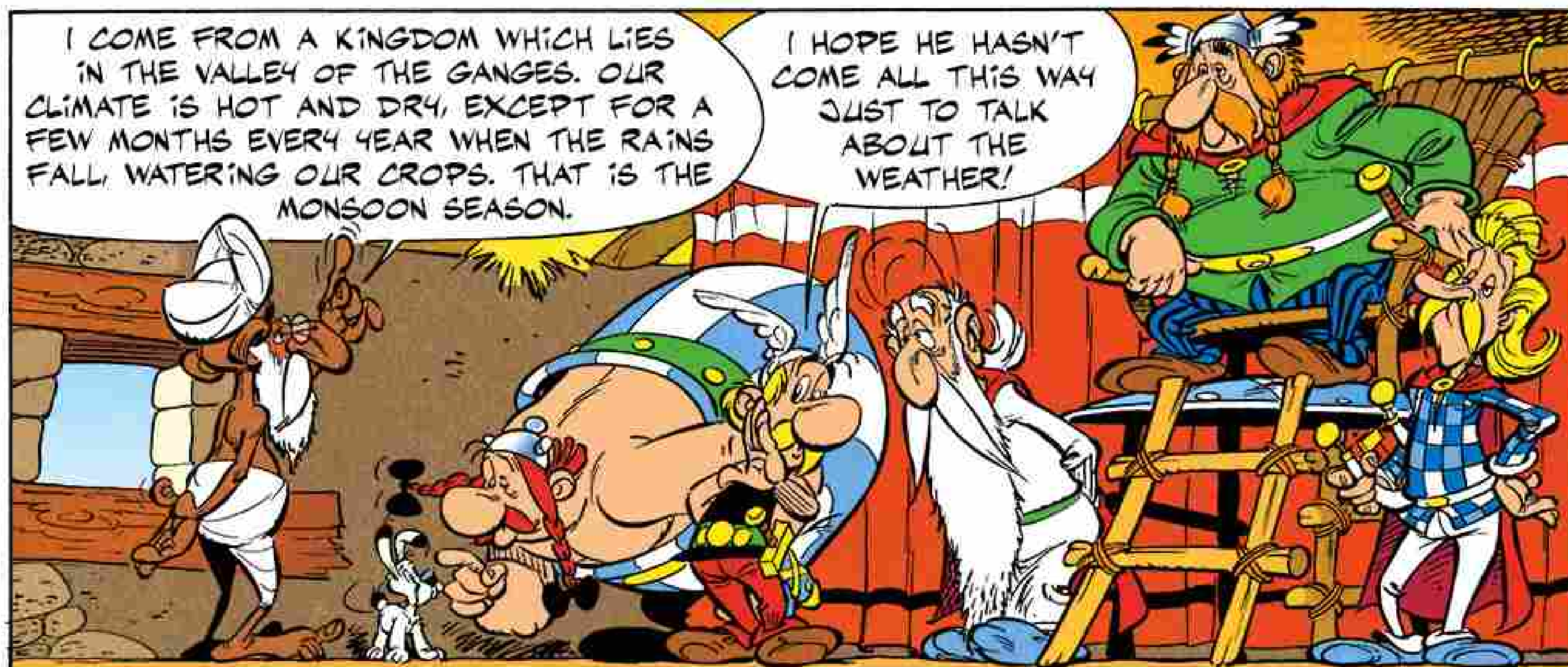




I COME FROM A DISTANT EASTERN COUNTRY, WHERE AN EX-LEGIONARY WHO IS NOW A MERCHANT TOLD ME ABOUT YOUR FAMOUS DEEDS. SO I'VE COME ALL THIS WAY TO ASK YOU FOR HELP. IT'S VERY IMPORTANT!

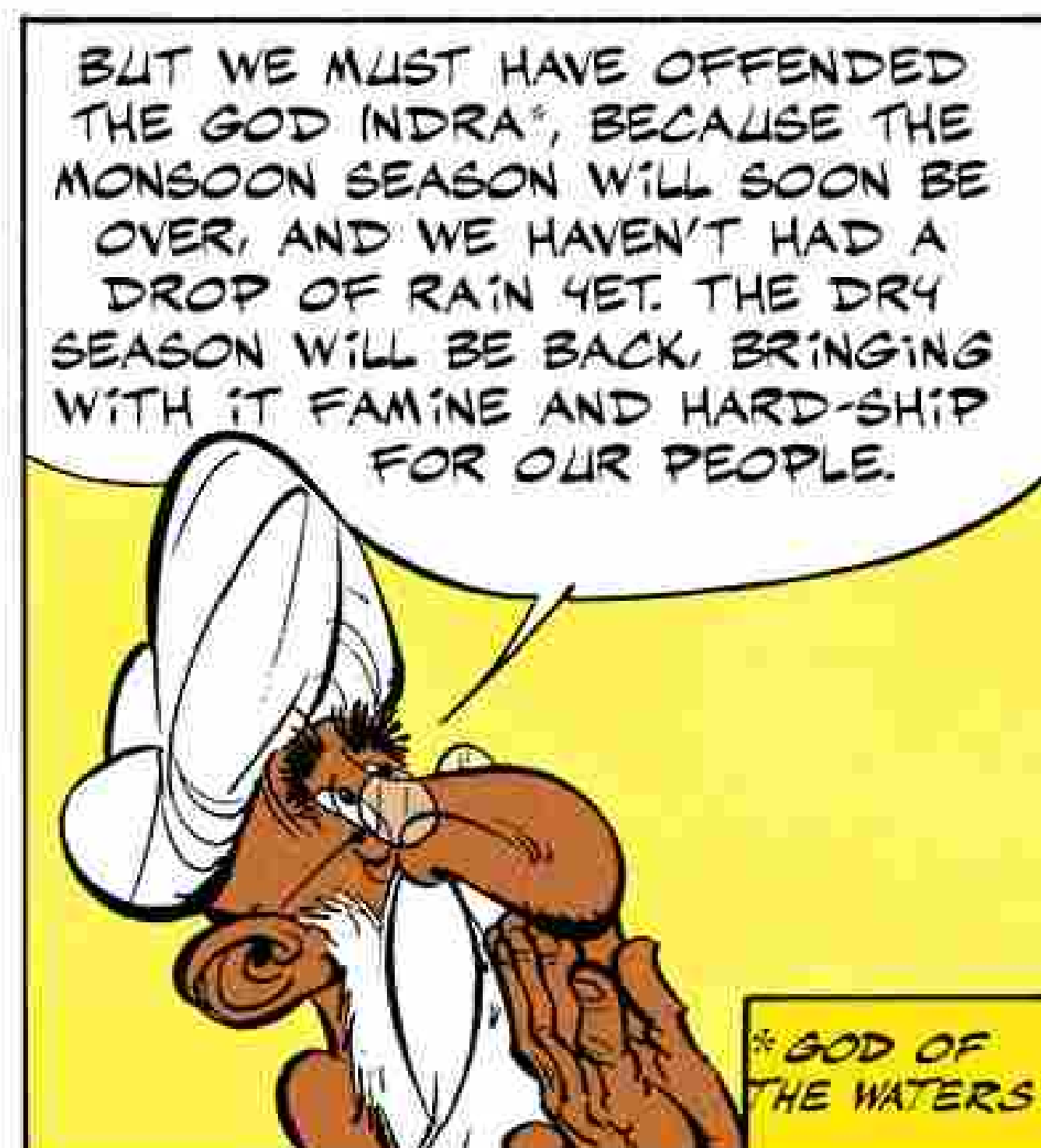






I COME FROM A KINGDOM WHICH LIES IN THE VALLEY OF THE GANGES. OUR CLIMATE IS HOT AND DRY, EXCEPT FOR A FEW MONTHS EVERY YEAR WHEN THE RAINS FALL, WATERING OUR CROPS. THAT IS THE MONSOON SEASON.

I HOPE HE HASN'T COME ALL THIS WAY JUST TO TALK ABOUT THE WEATHER!

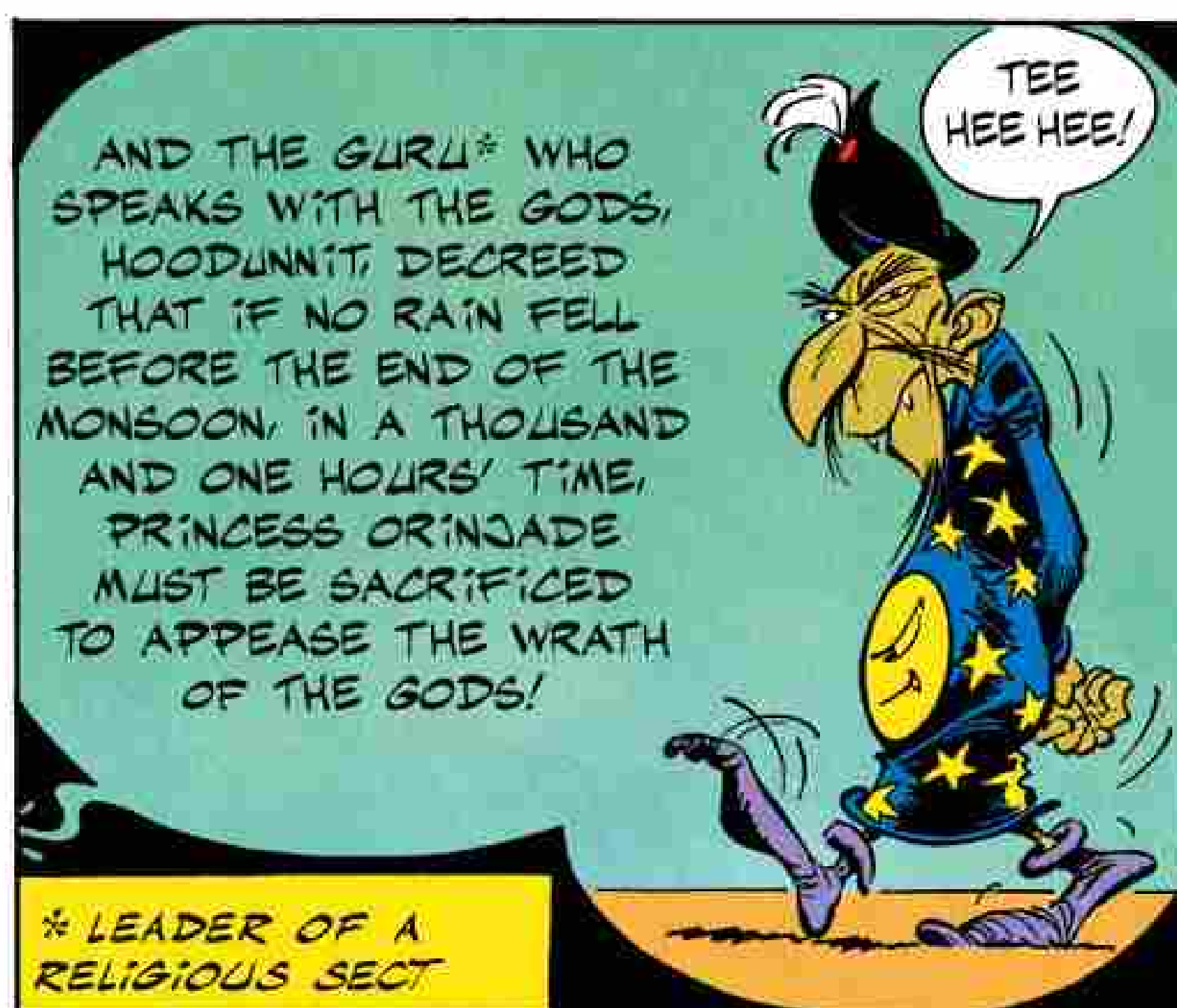


BUT WE MUST HAVE OFFENDED THE GOD INDRA*, BECAUSE THE MONSOON SEASON WILL SOON BE OVER, AND WE HAVEN'T HAD A DROP OF RAIN YET. THE DRY SEASON WILL BE BACK, BRINGING WITH IT FAMINE AND HARD-SHIP FOR OUR PEOPLE.

* GOD OF THE WATERS



OUR GOOD KING, RAJAH WATZIT, HAS A DAUGHTER, THE SWEET AND LOVELY PRINCESS ORINQADE...



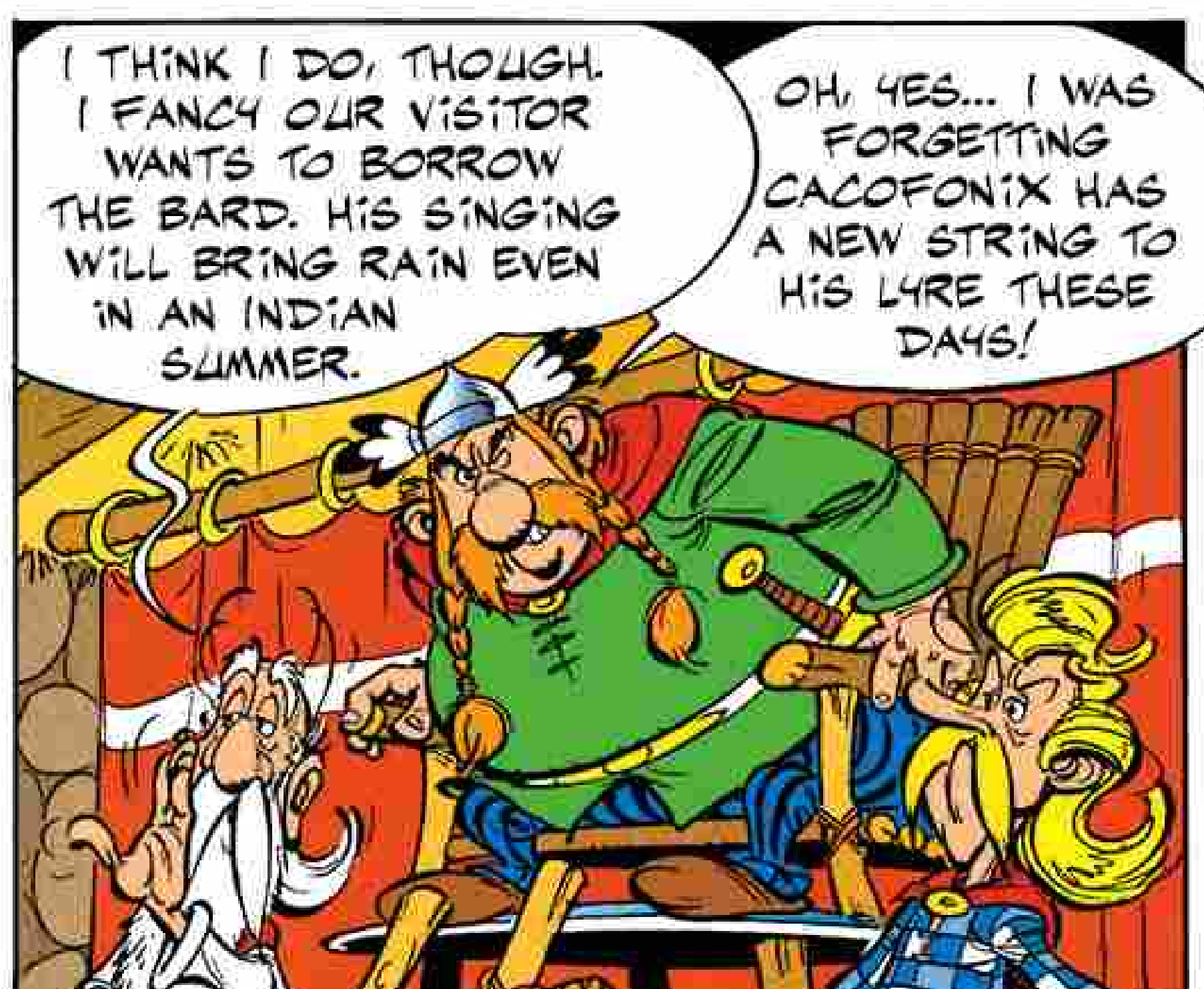
AND THE GURU* WHO SPEAKS WITH THE GODS, HOODUNNIT, DECREED THAT IF NO RAIN FELL BEFORE THE END OF THE MONSOON, IN A THOUSAND AND ONE HOURS' TIME, PRINCESS ORINQADE MUST BE SACRIFICED TO APPEASE THE WRATH OF THE GODS!

TEE HEE HEE!

* LEADER OF A RELIGIOUS SECT



BUT IF EVEN YOUR RAJAH DOESN'T HOLD THE RAINS OF POWER, I DON'T QUITE SEE HOW WE CAN HELP YOU!



I THINK I DO, THOUGH. I FANCY OUR VISITOR WANTS TO BORROW THE BARD. HIS SINGING WILL BRING RAIN EVEN IN AN INDIAN SUMMER.

OH, YES... I WAS FORGETTING CACOFONIX HAS A NEW STRING TO HIS LYRE THESE DAYS!



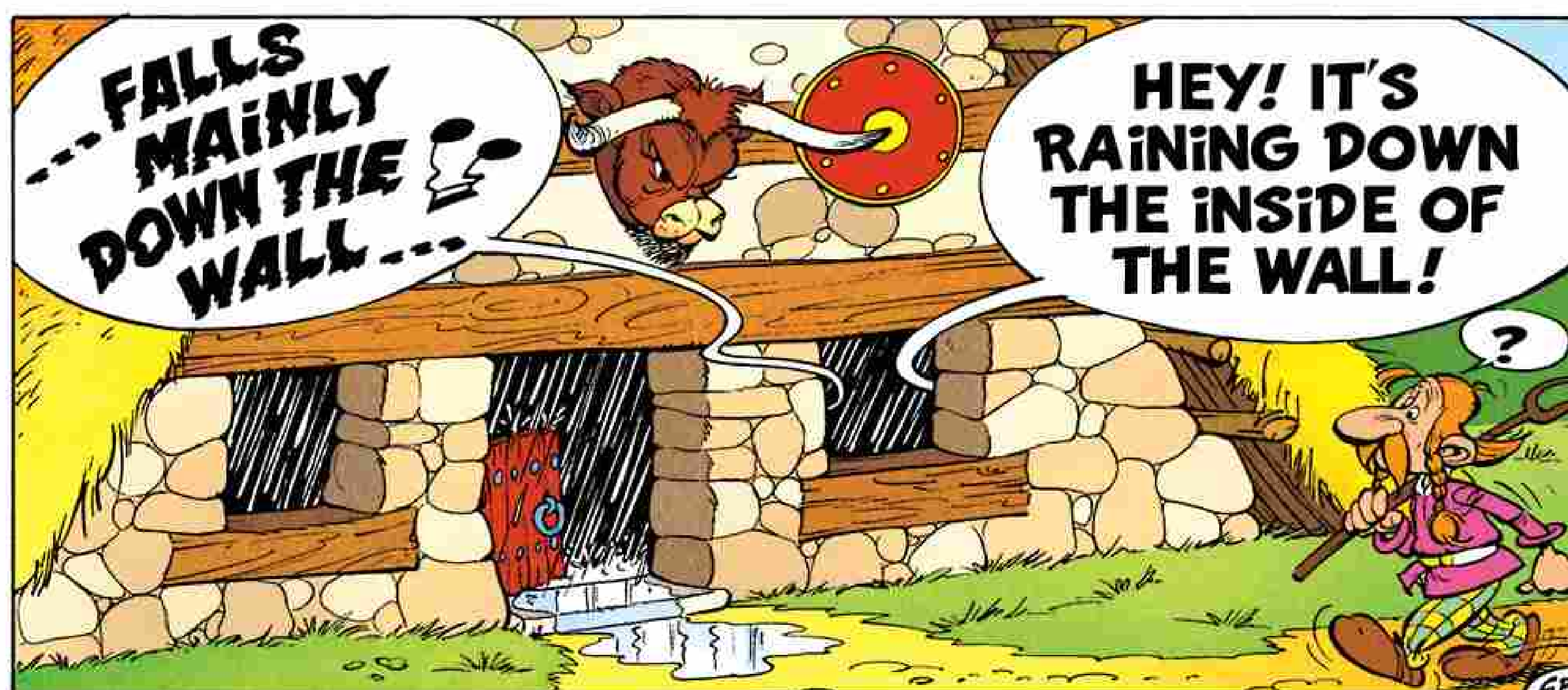
ALL RIGHT, FAKIR! WE'LL LEND YOU OUR BARD, AND ASTERIX AND OBELIX WILL GO WITH YOU TOO.



HOW DARE YOU SAY I MAKE IT RAIN? IT'S NOT TRUE! LISTEN TO THIS!

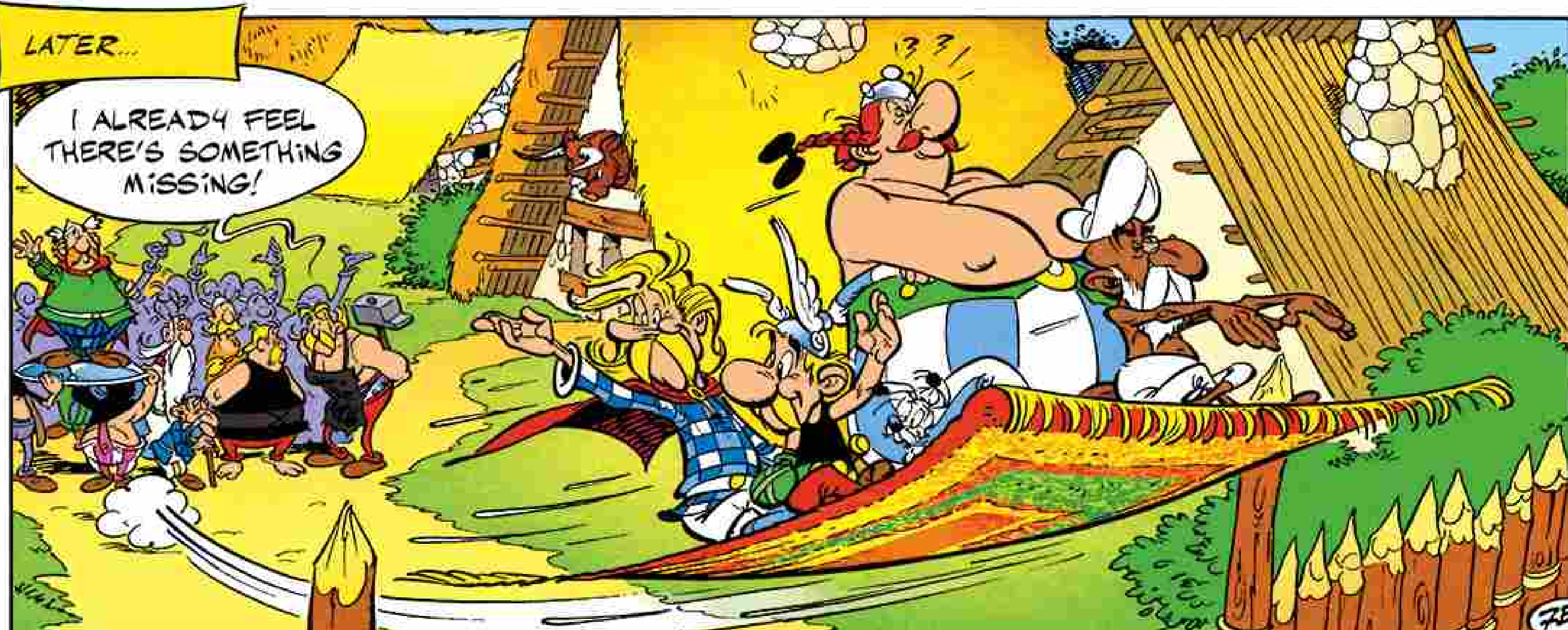
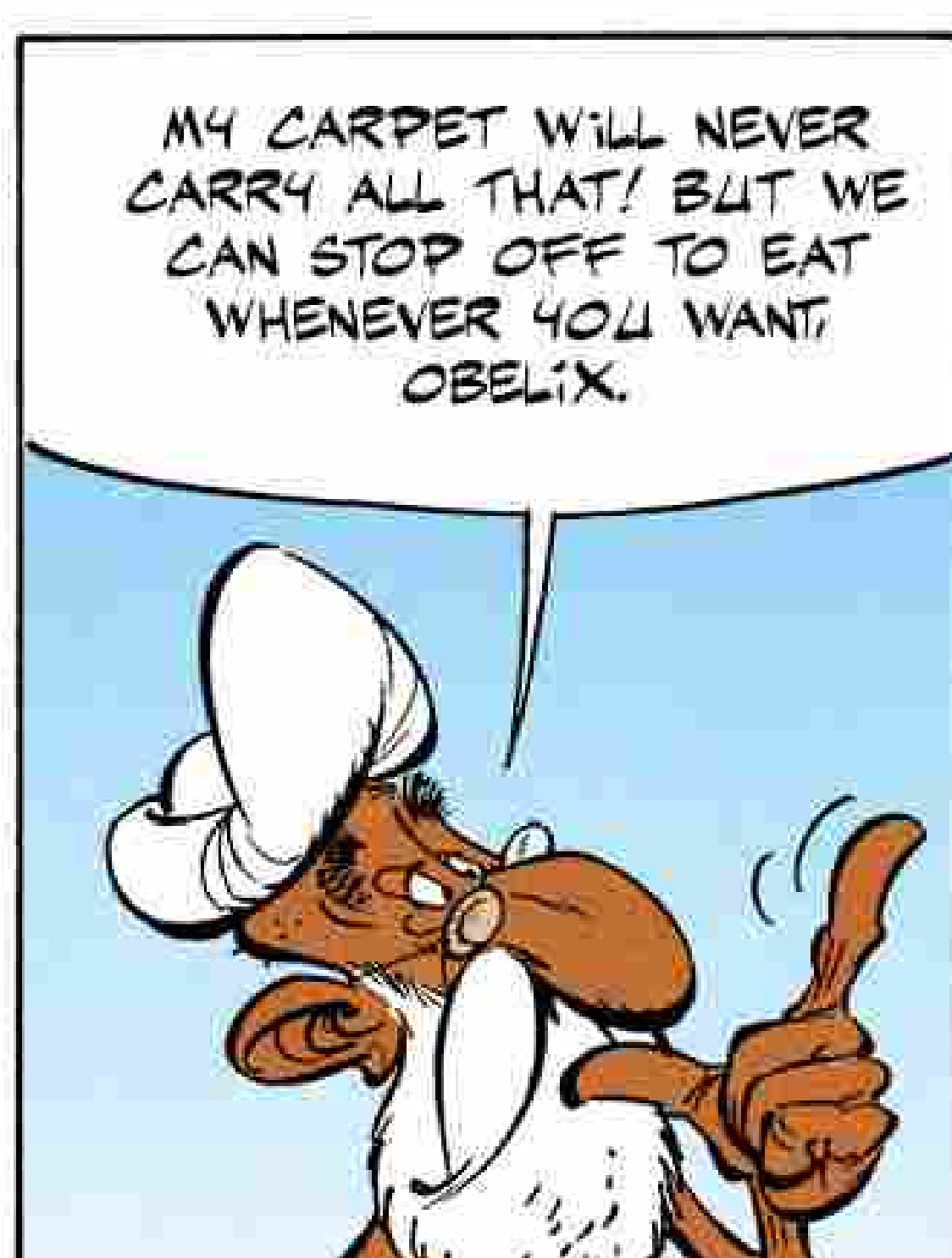
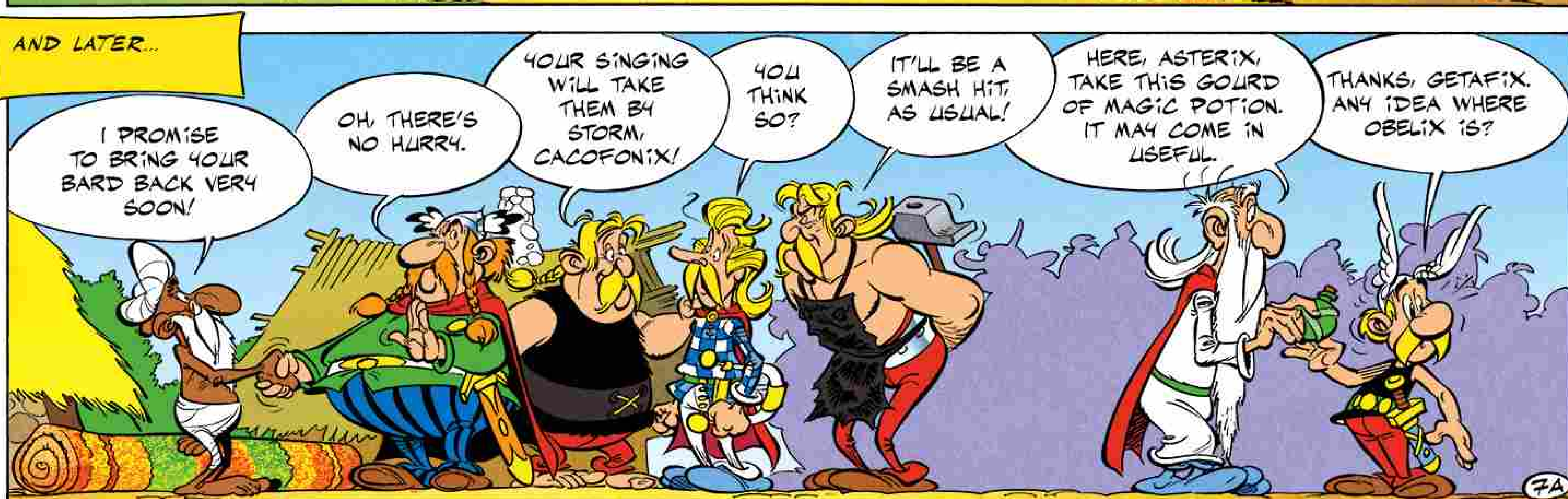
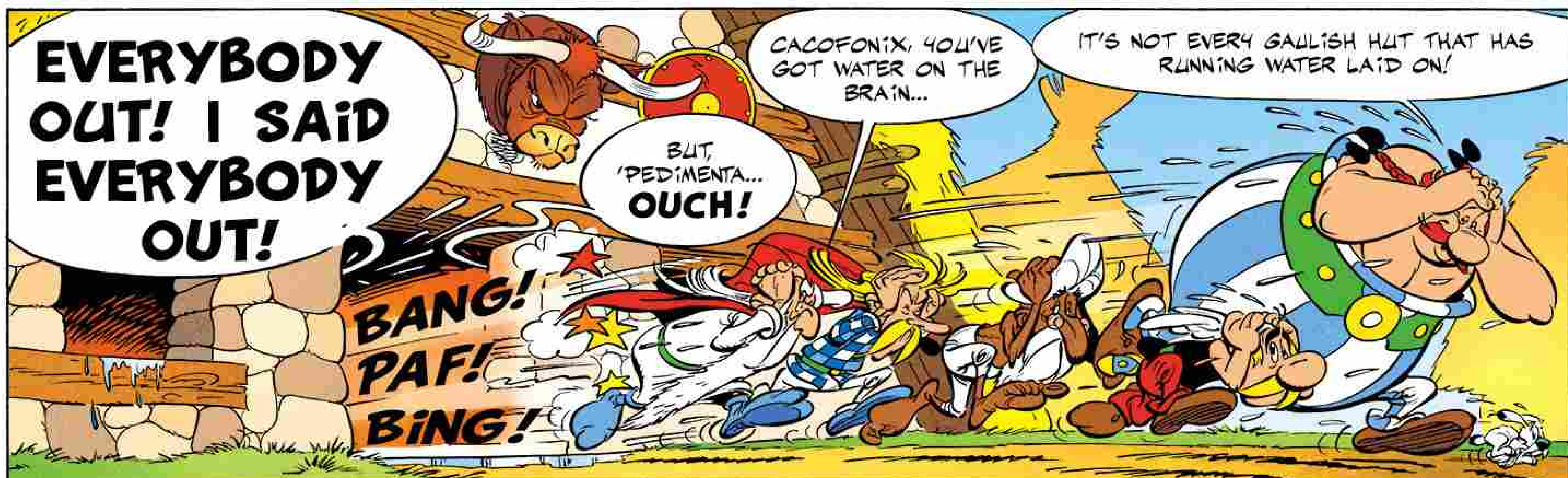


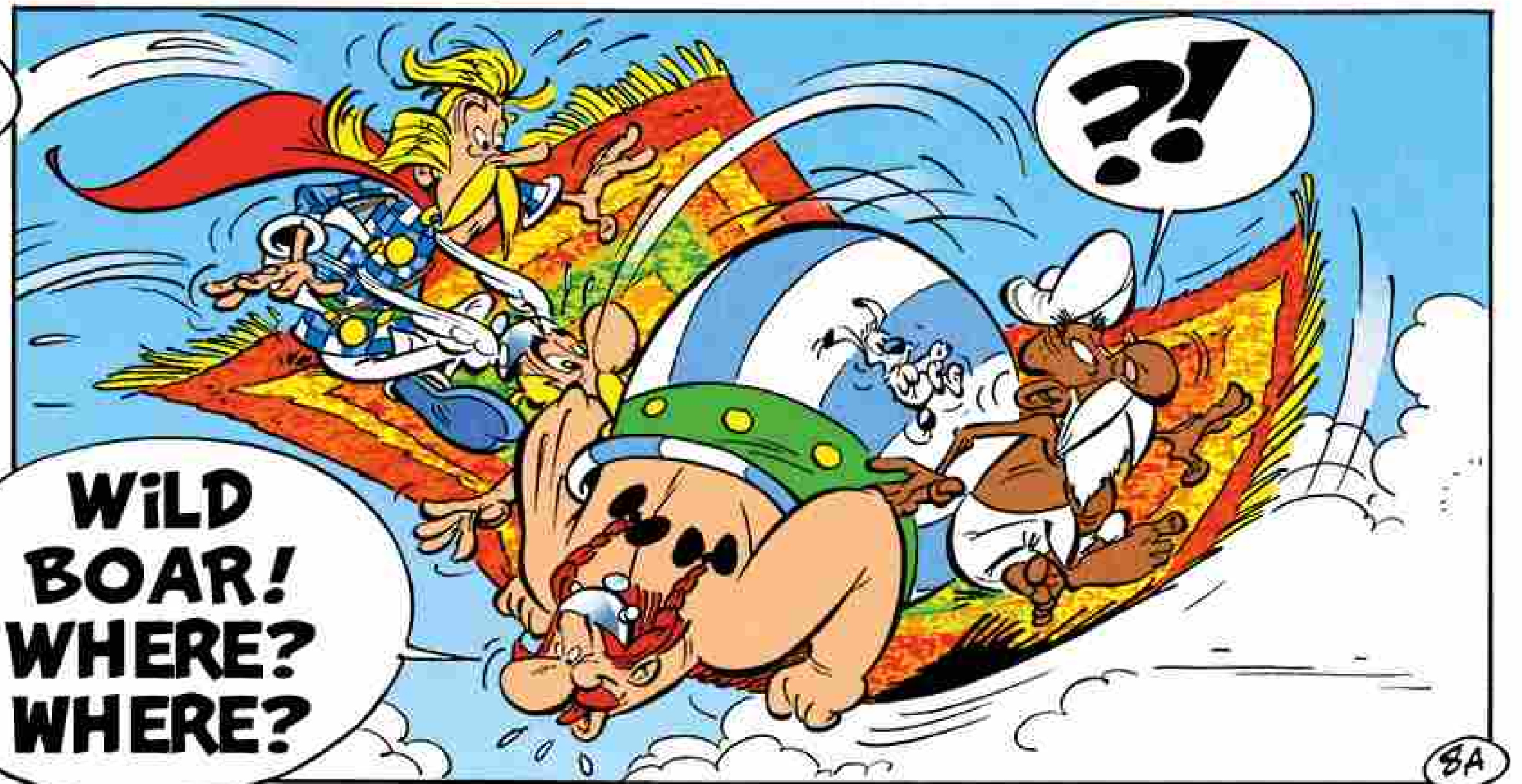
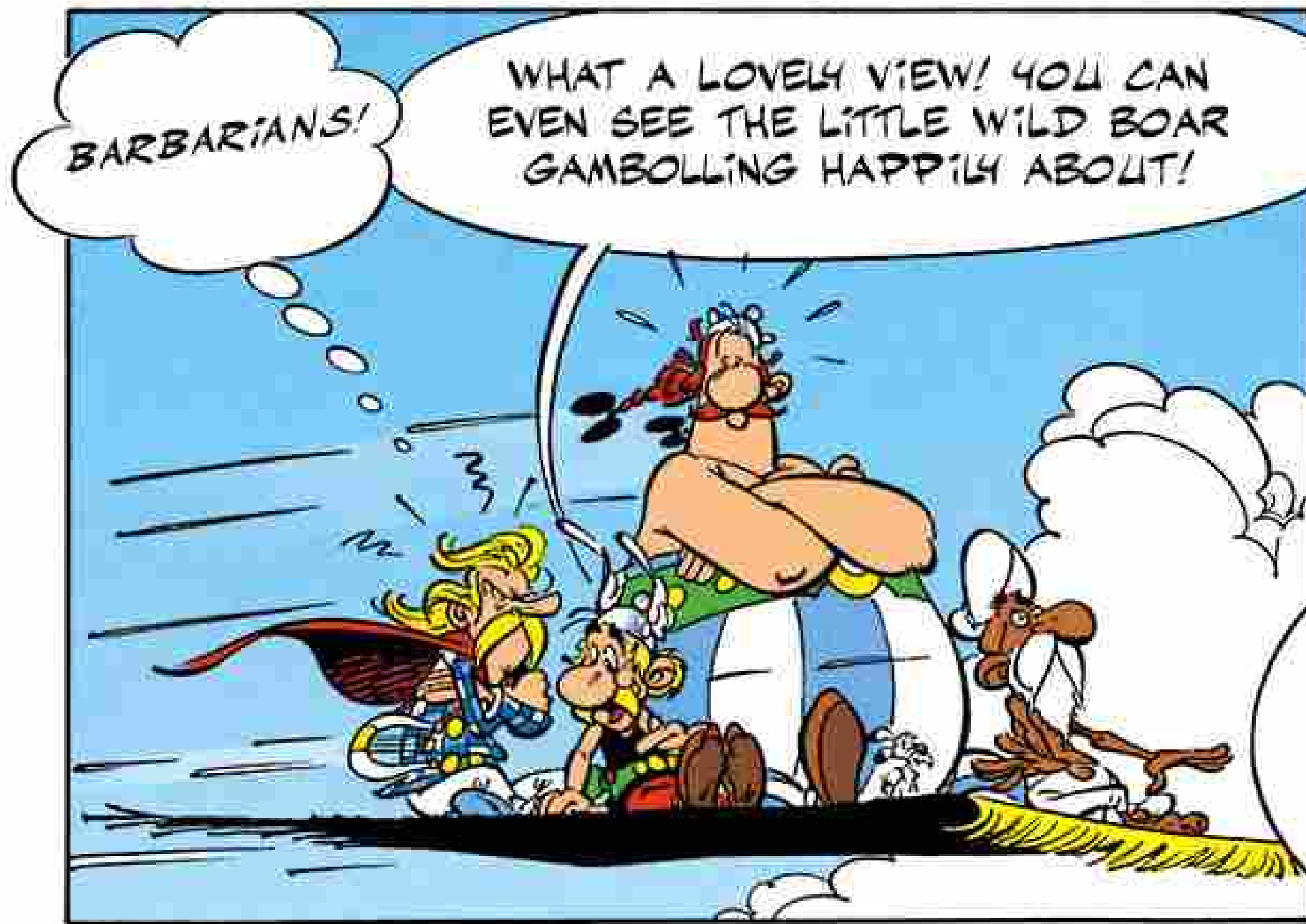
THE RAIN IN GAUL...

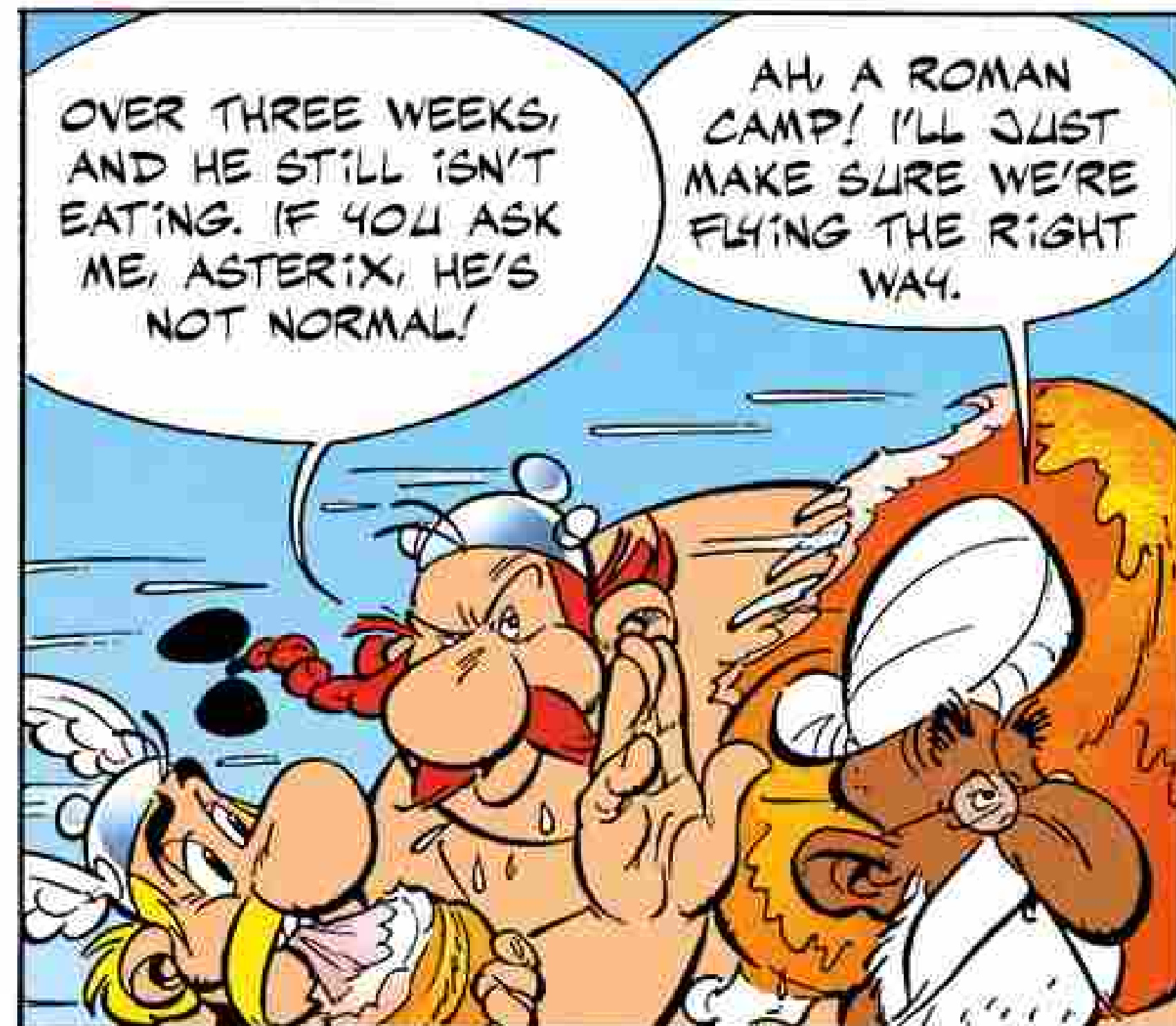
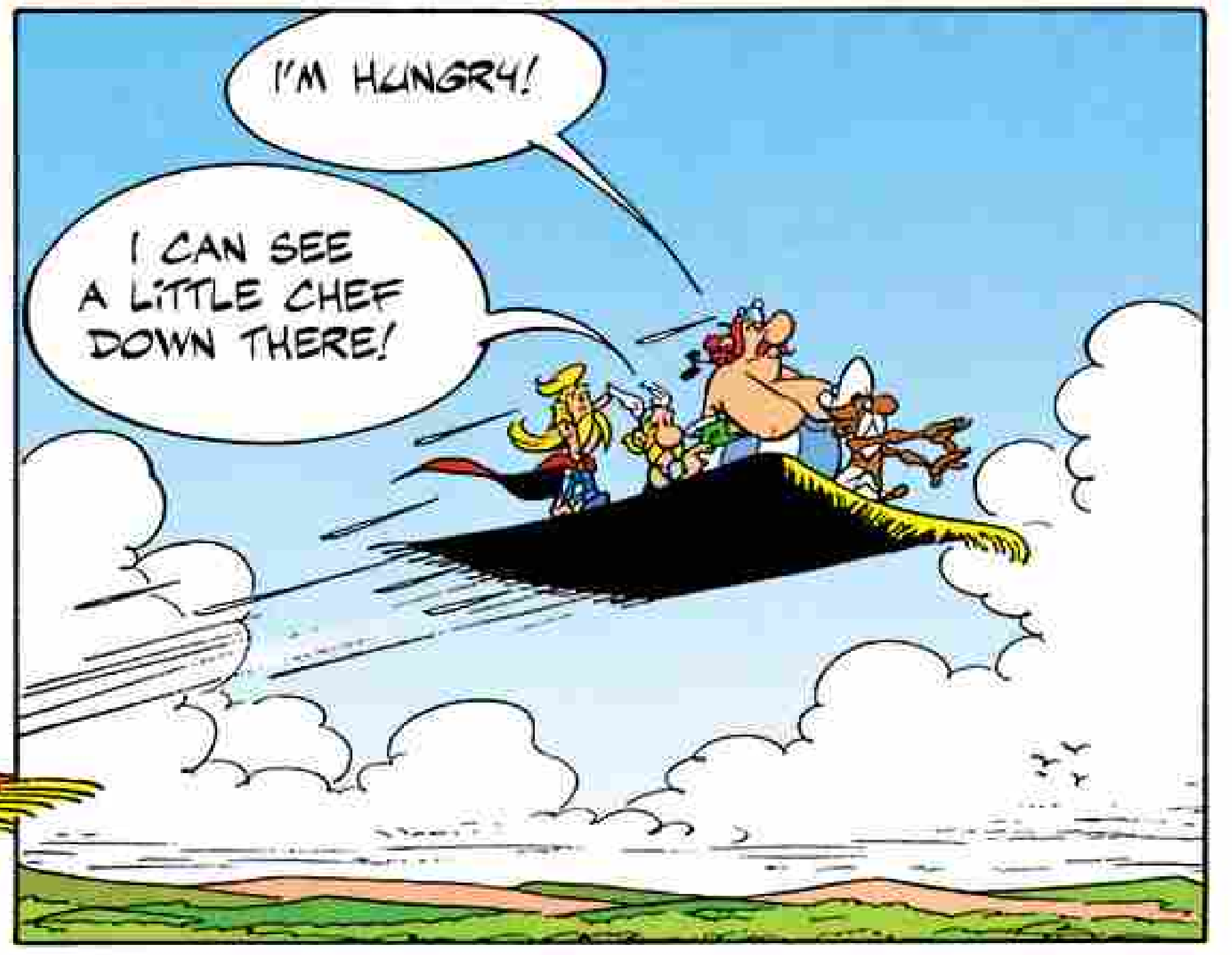


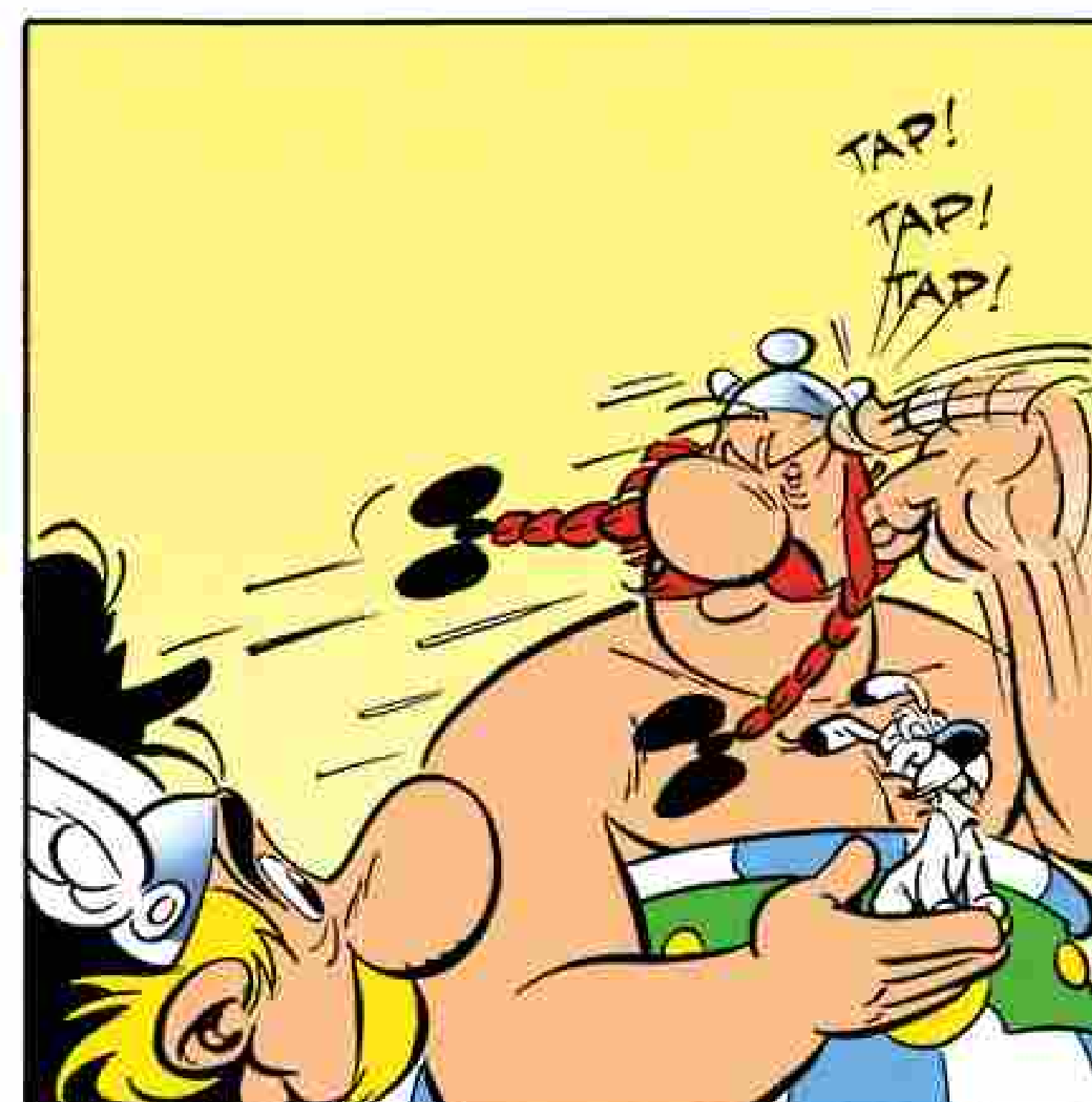
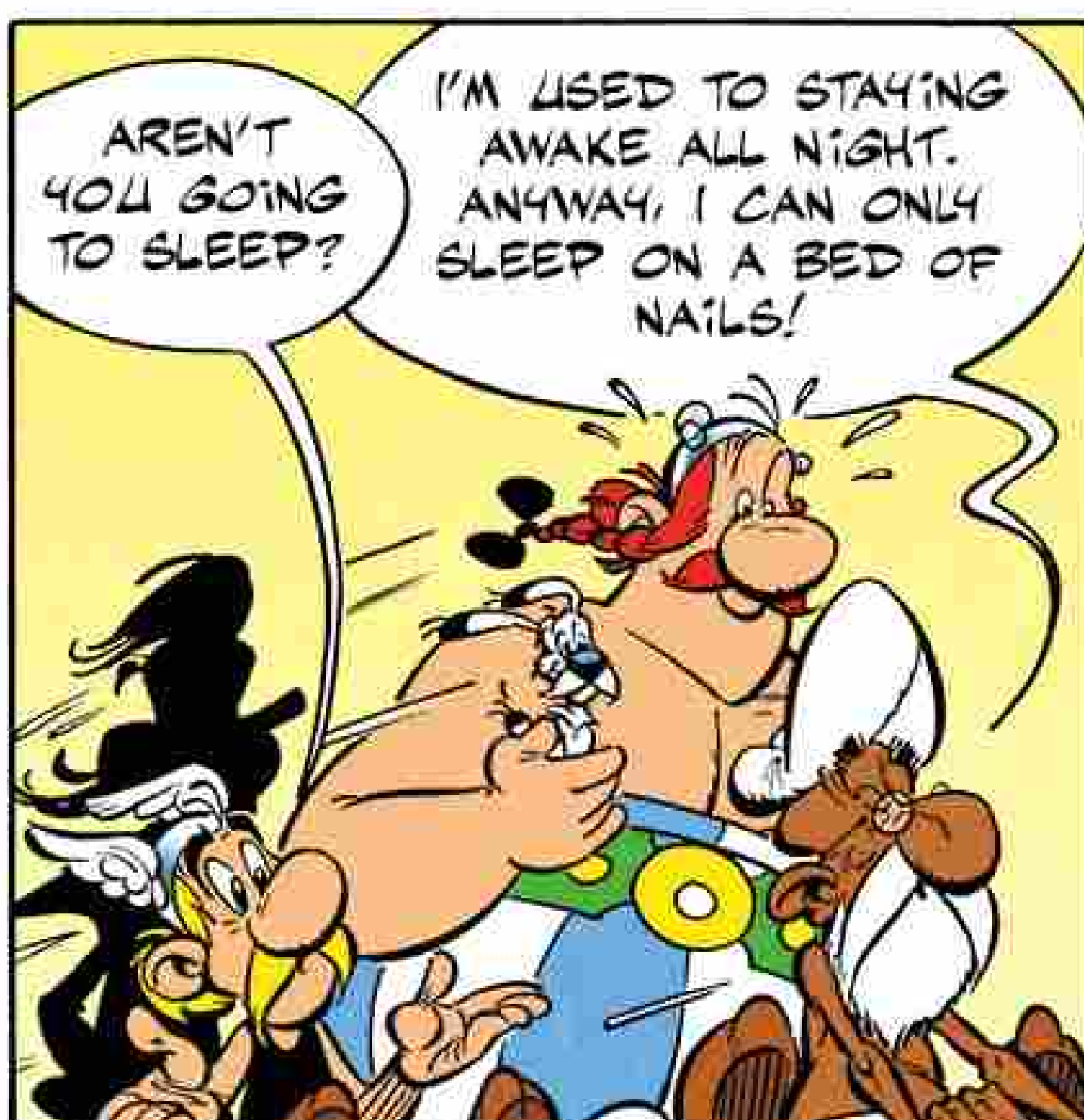
...FALLS MAINLY DOWN THE WALL...

HEY! IT'S RAINING DOWN THE INSIDE OF THE WALL!

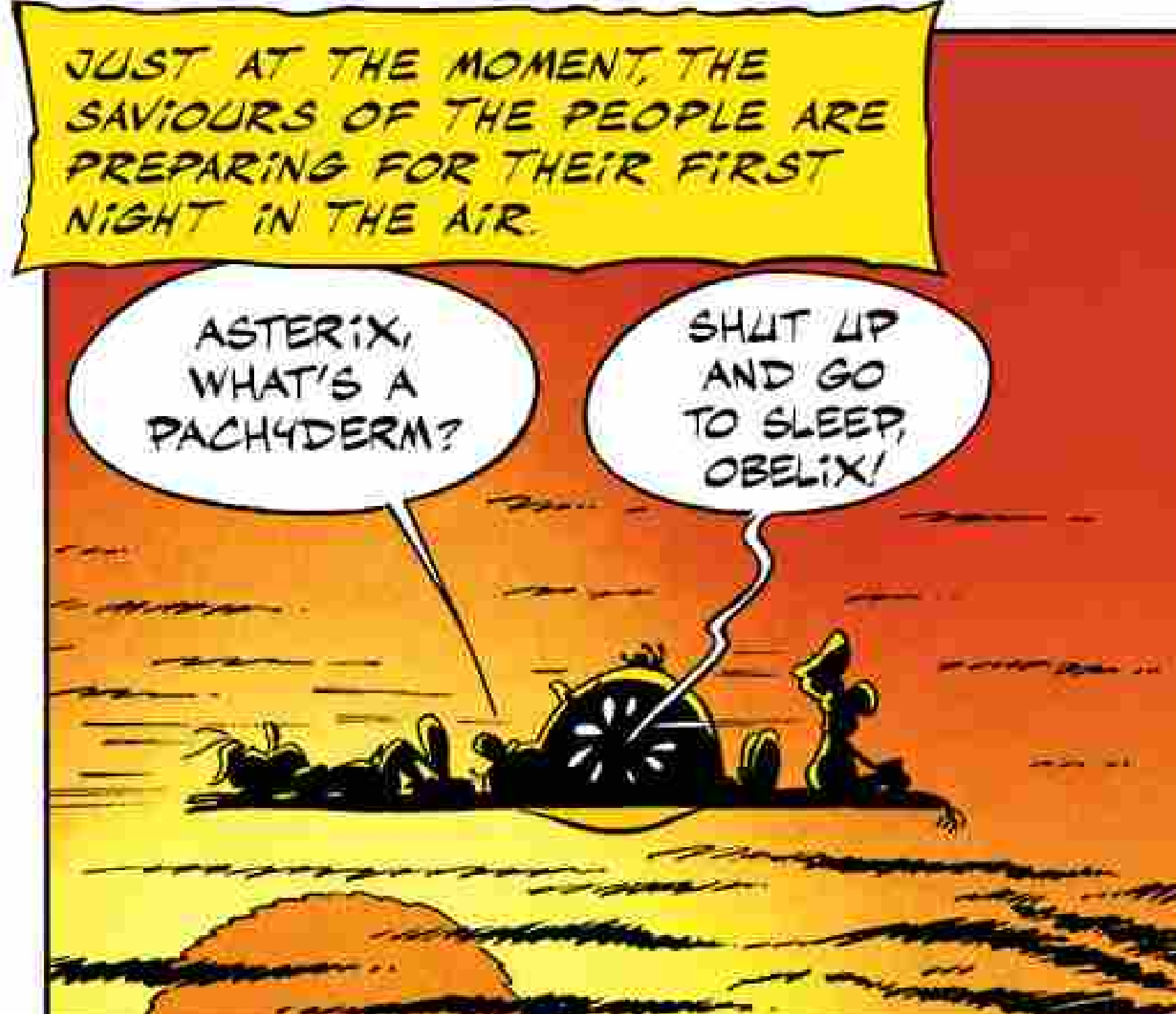
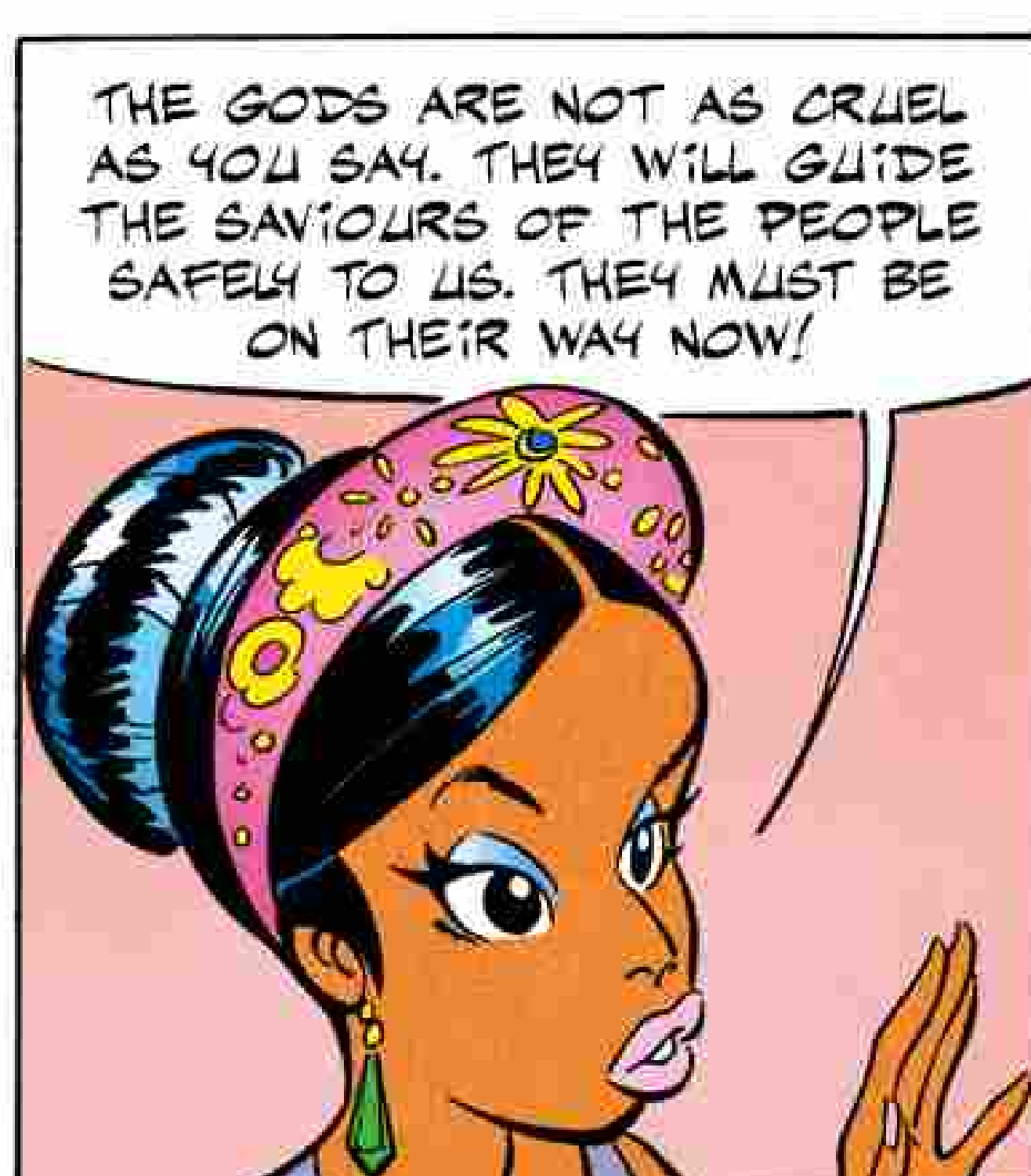
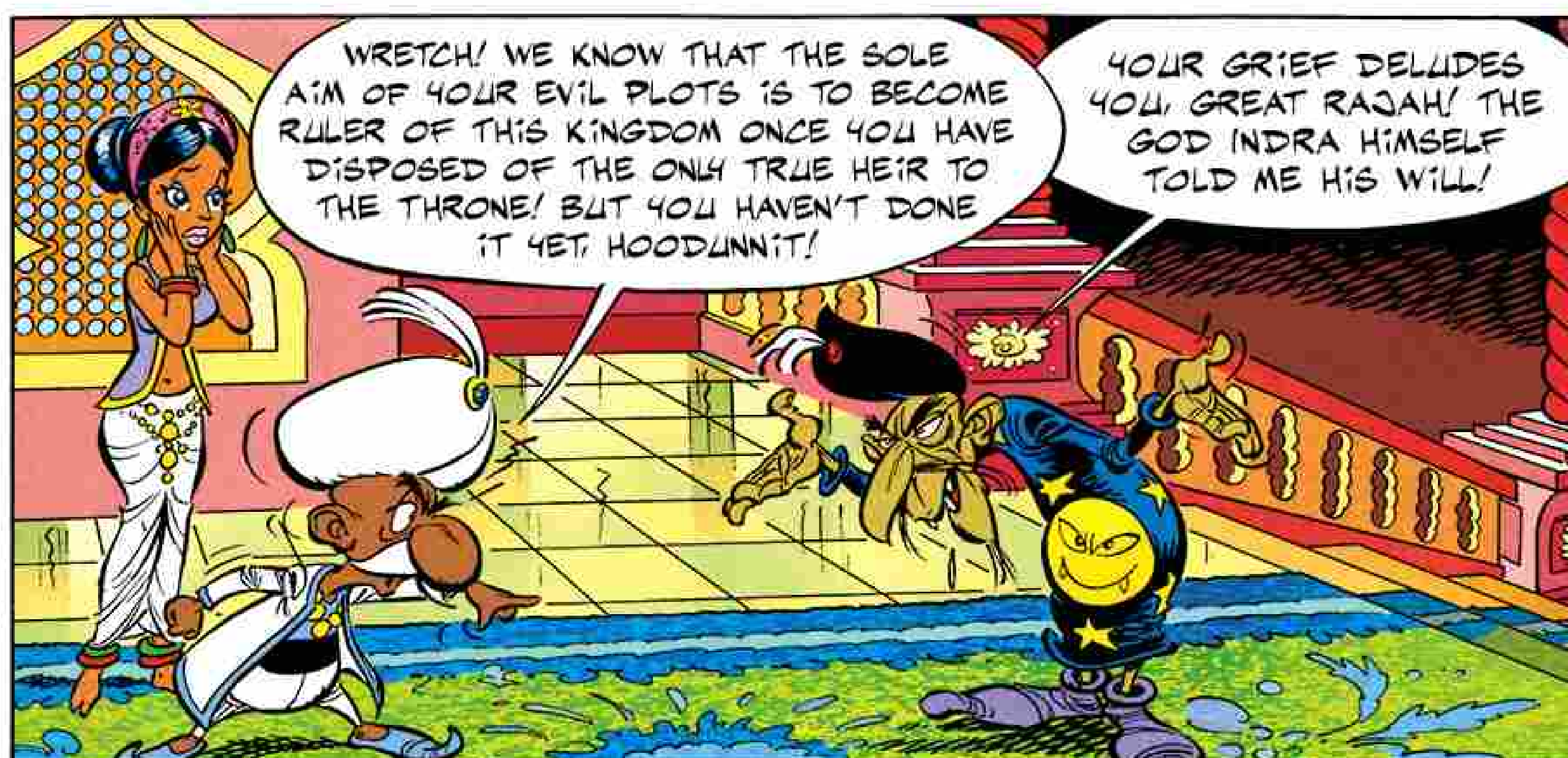
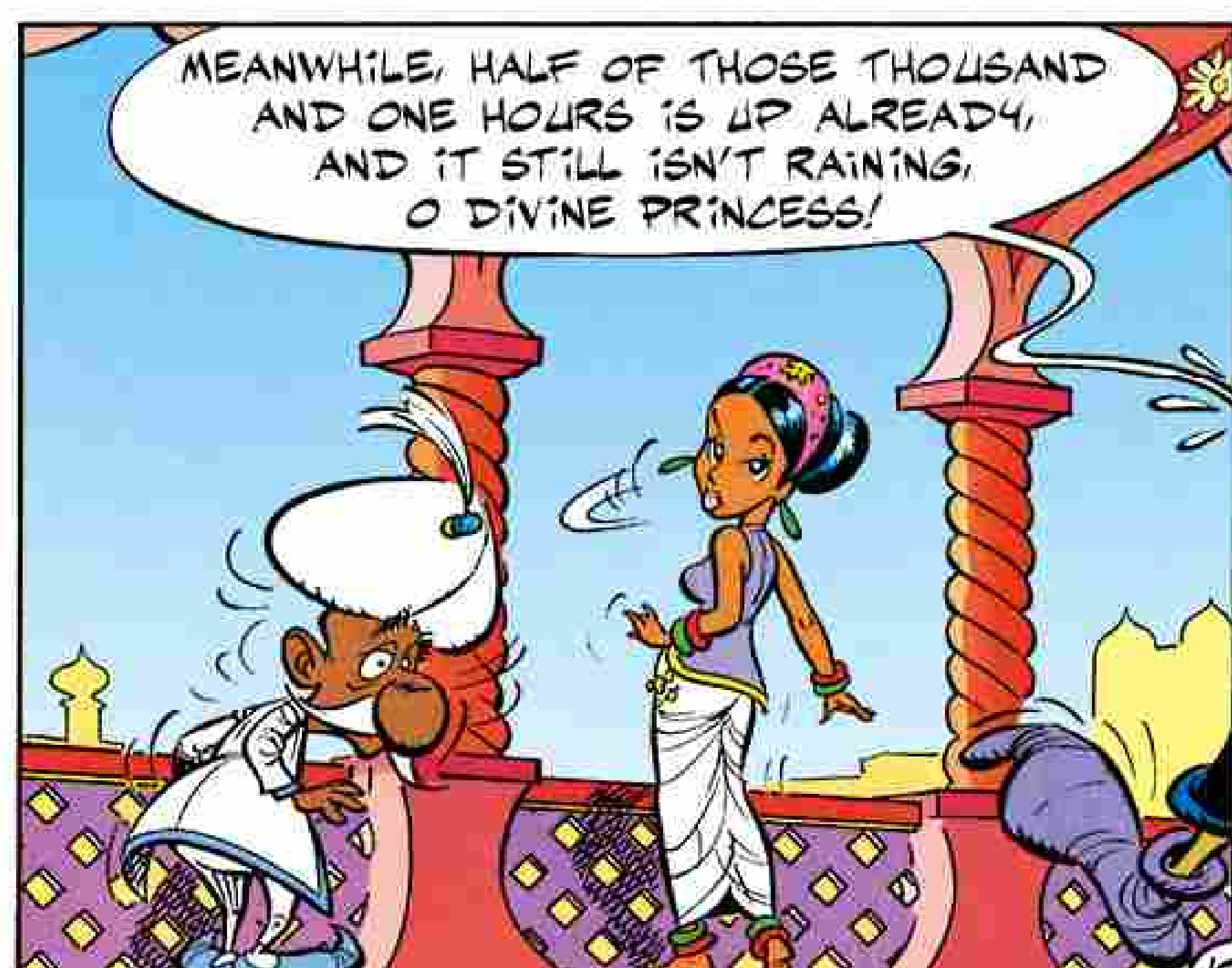
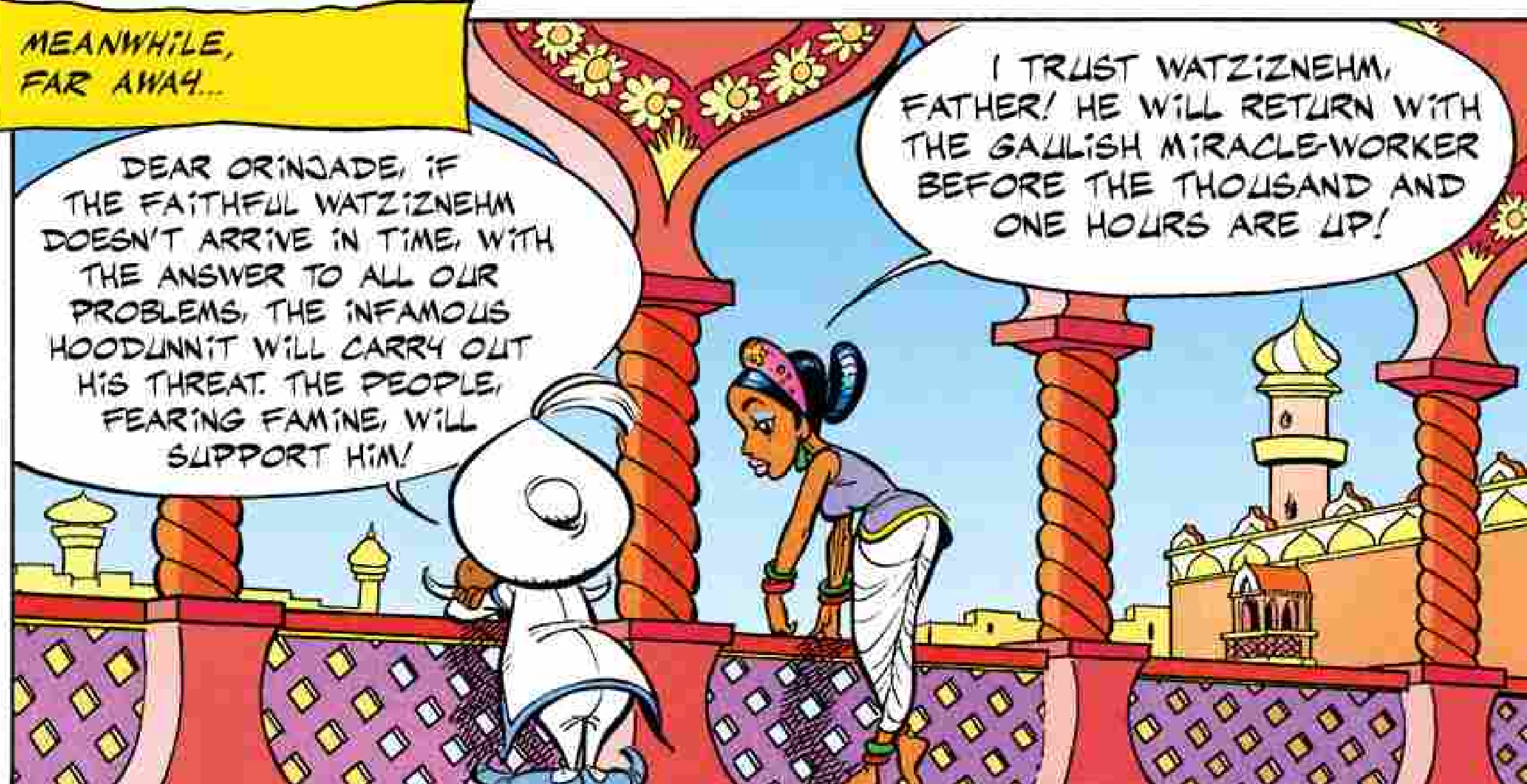


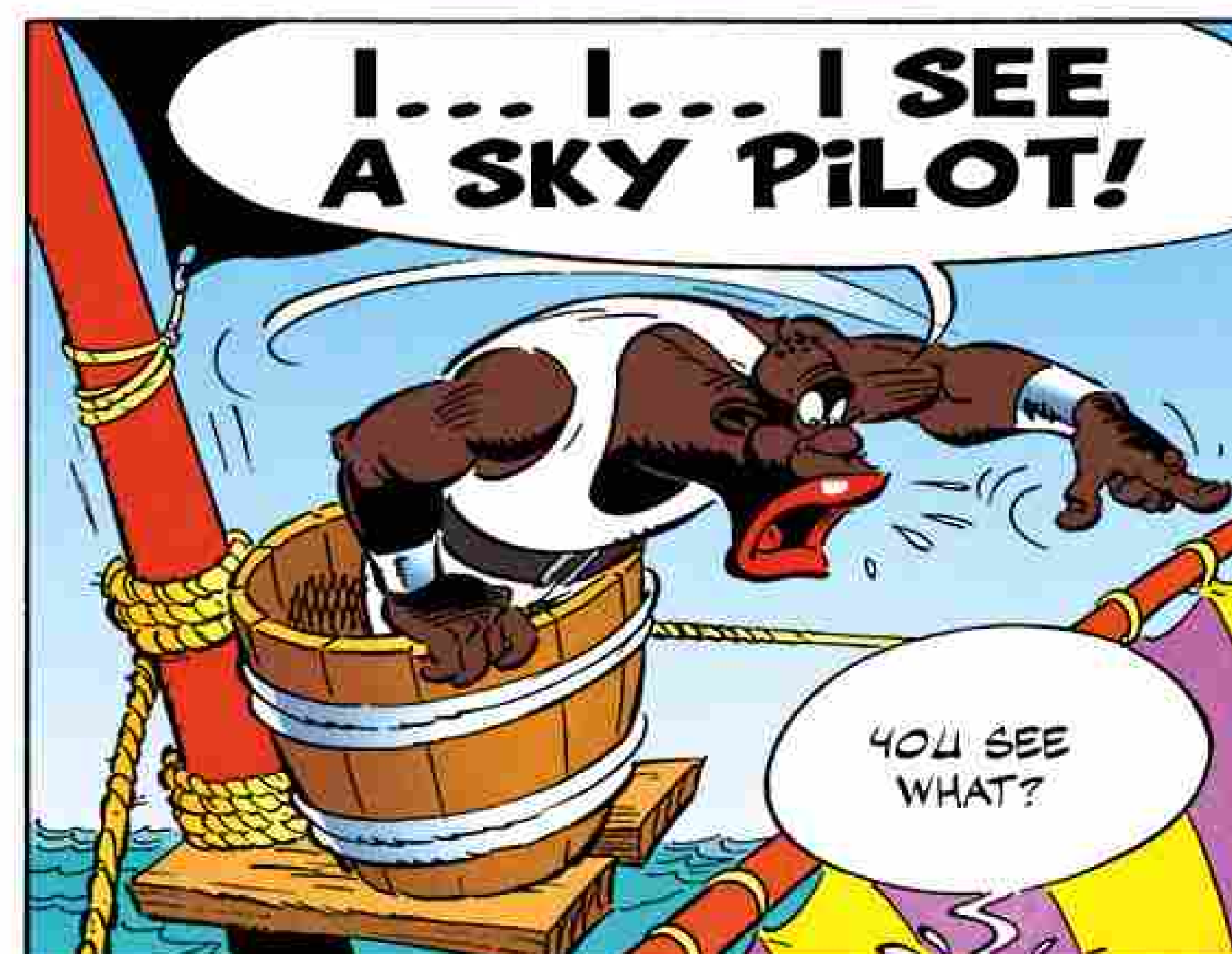
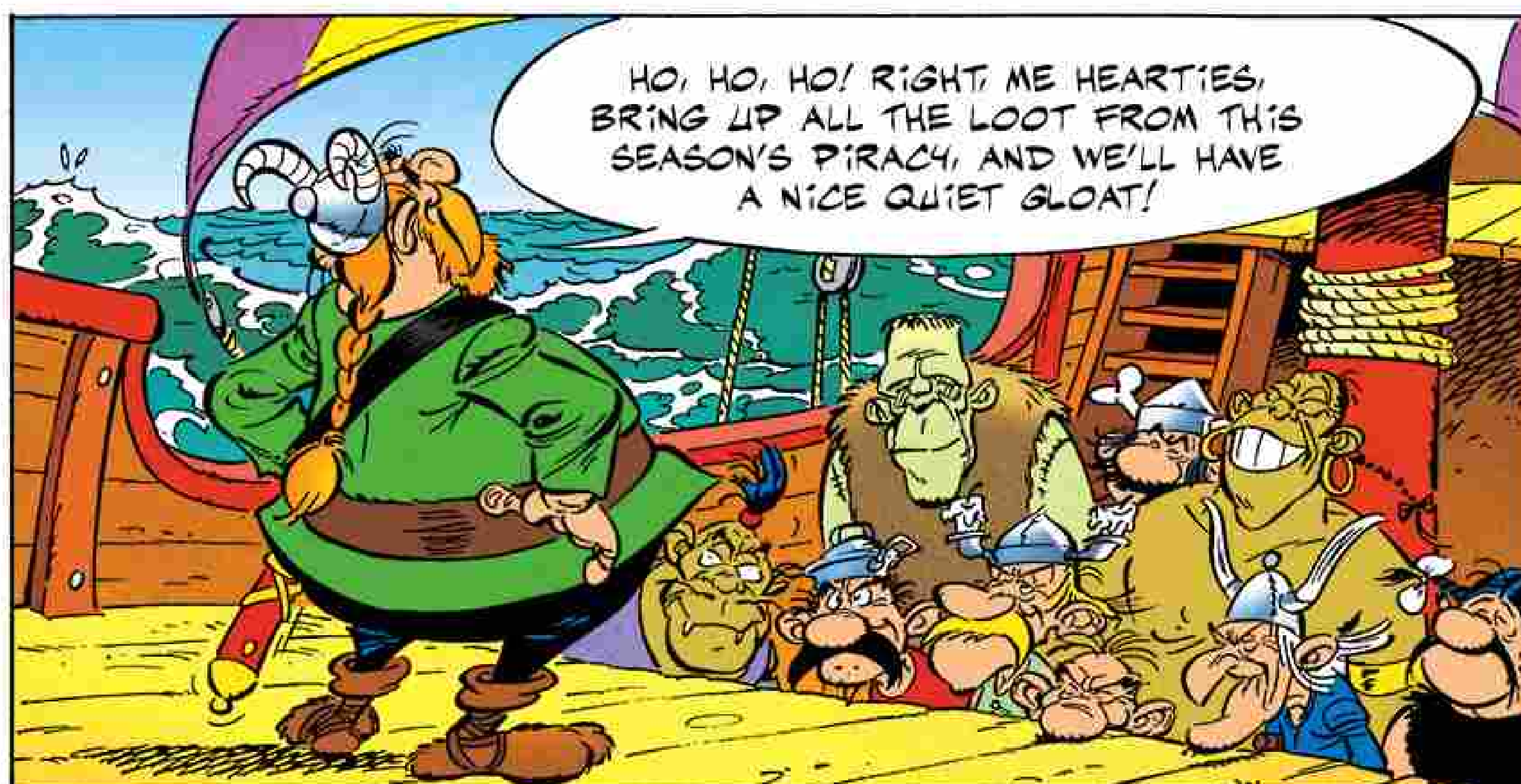
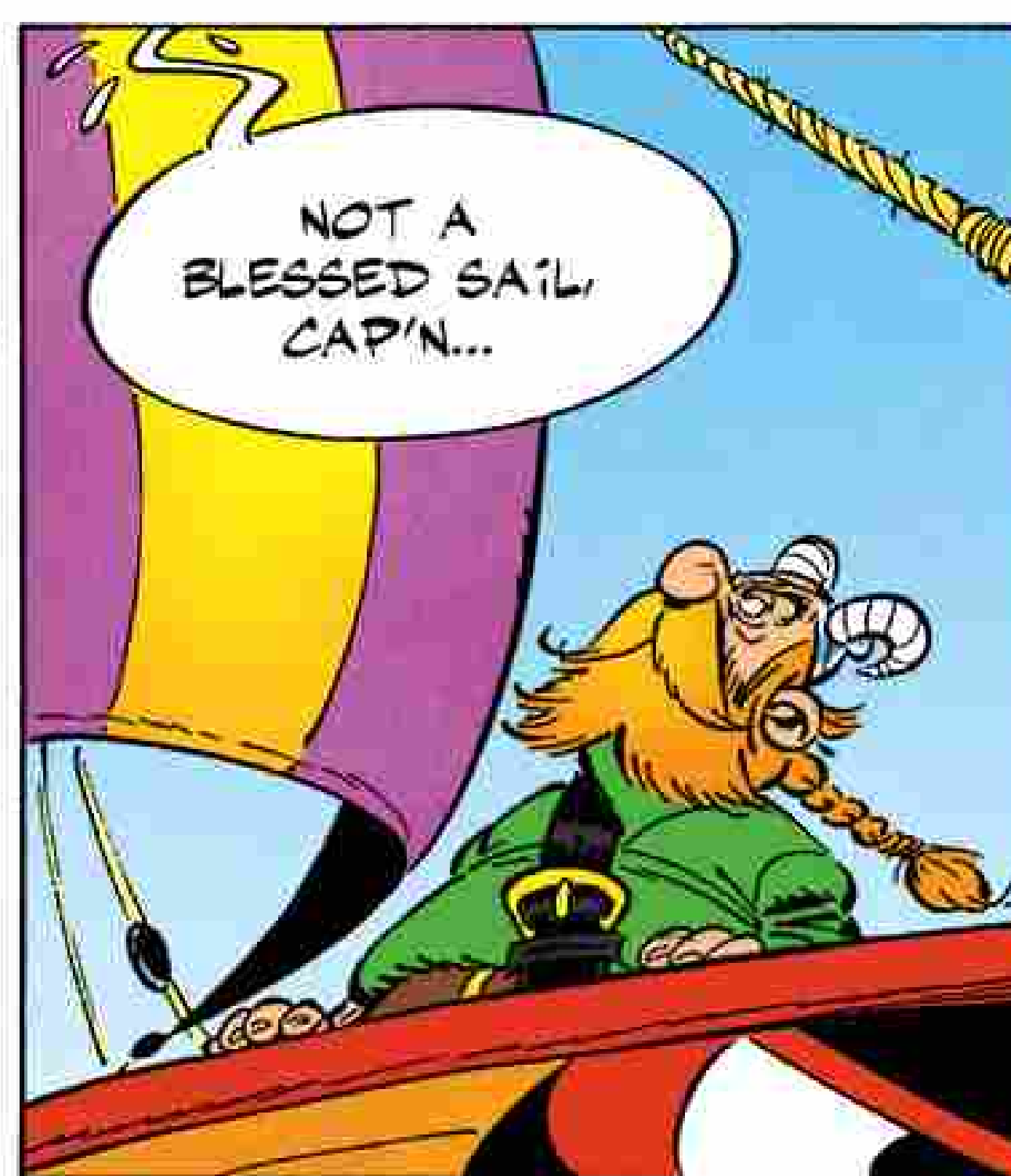
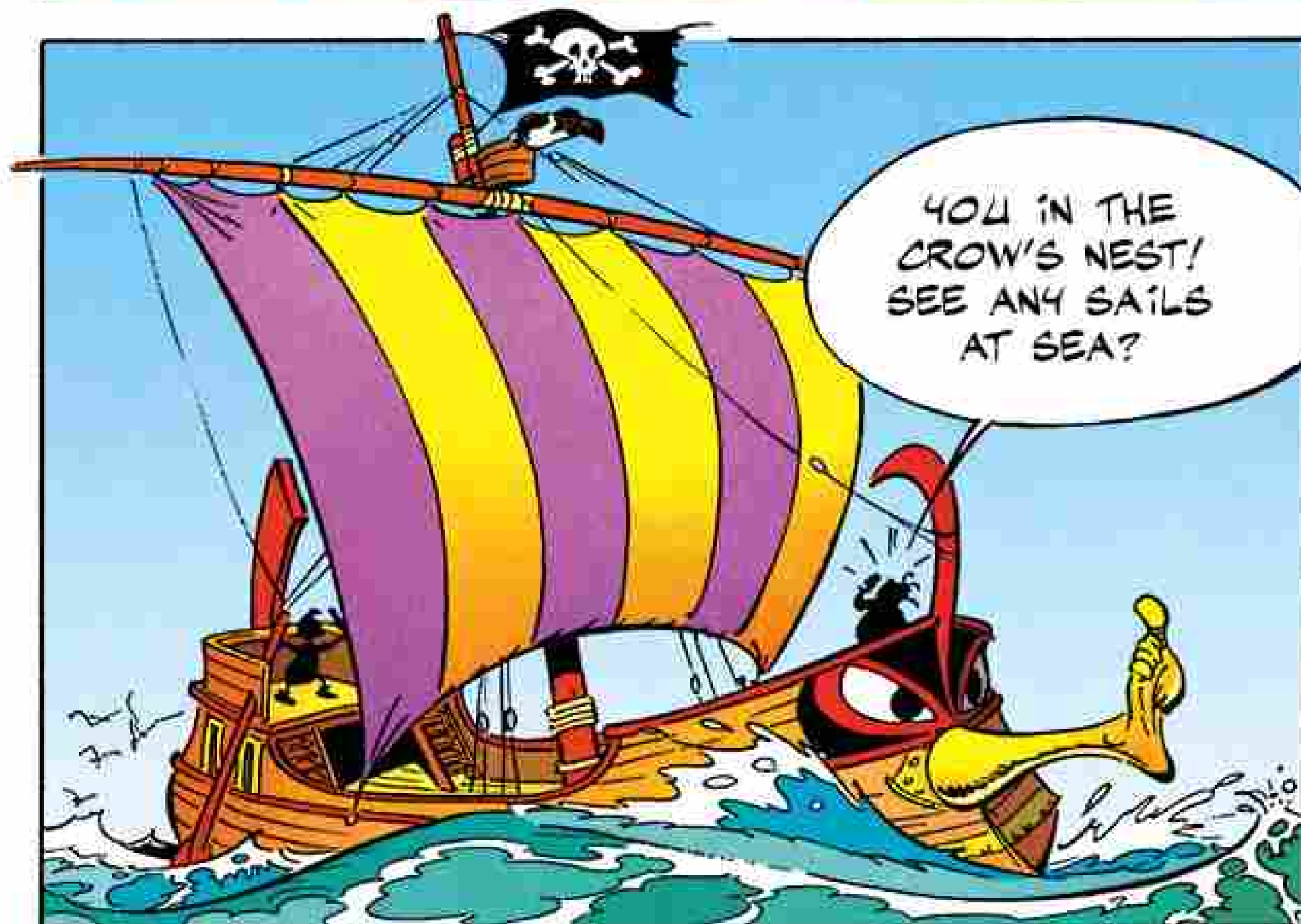
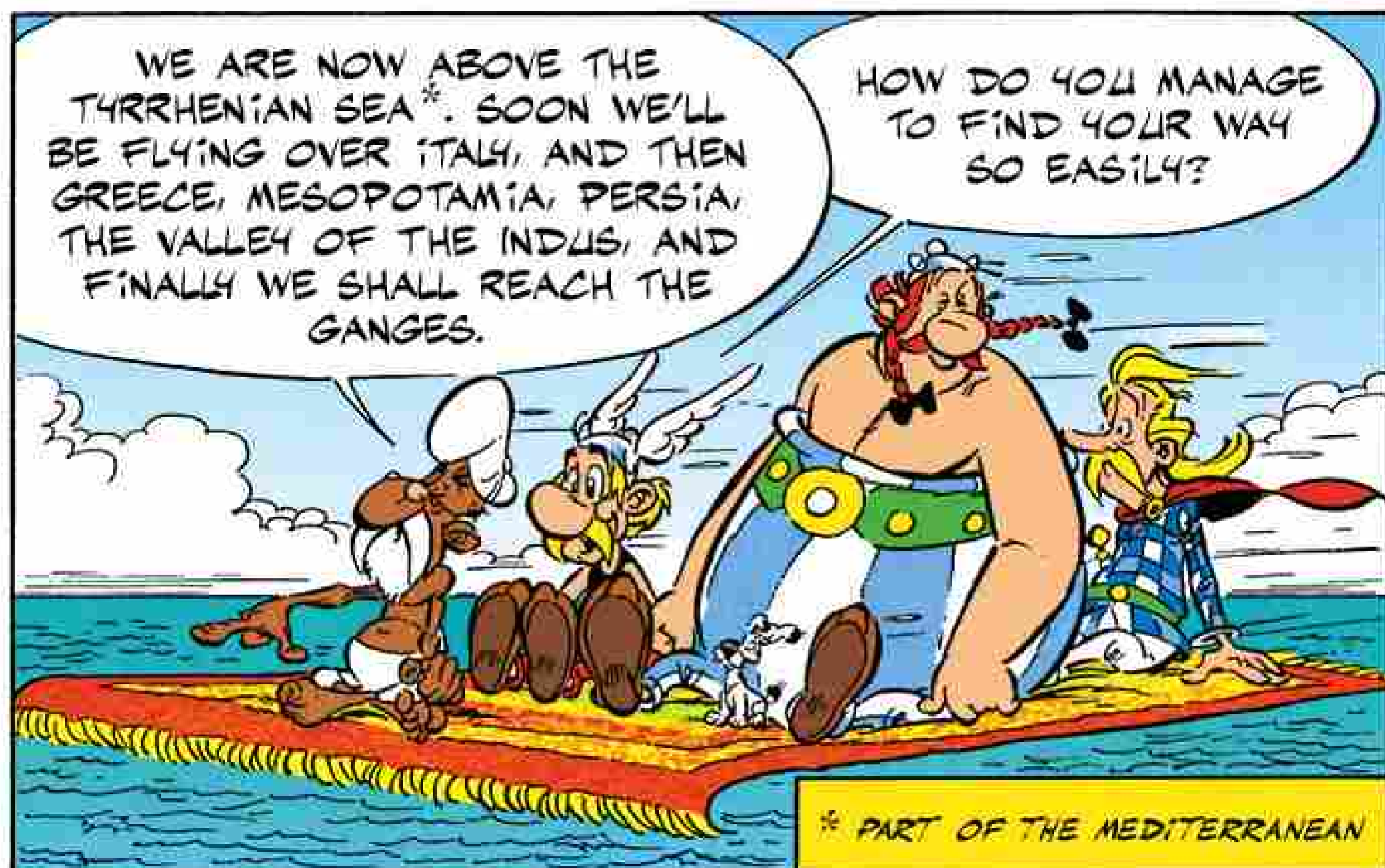


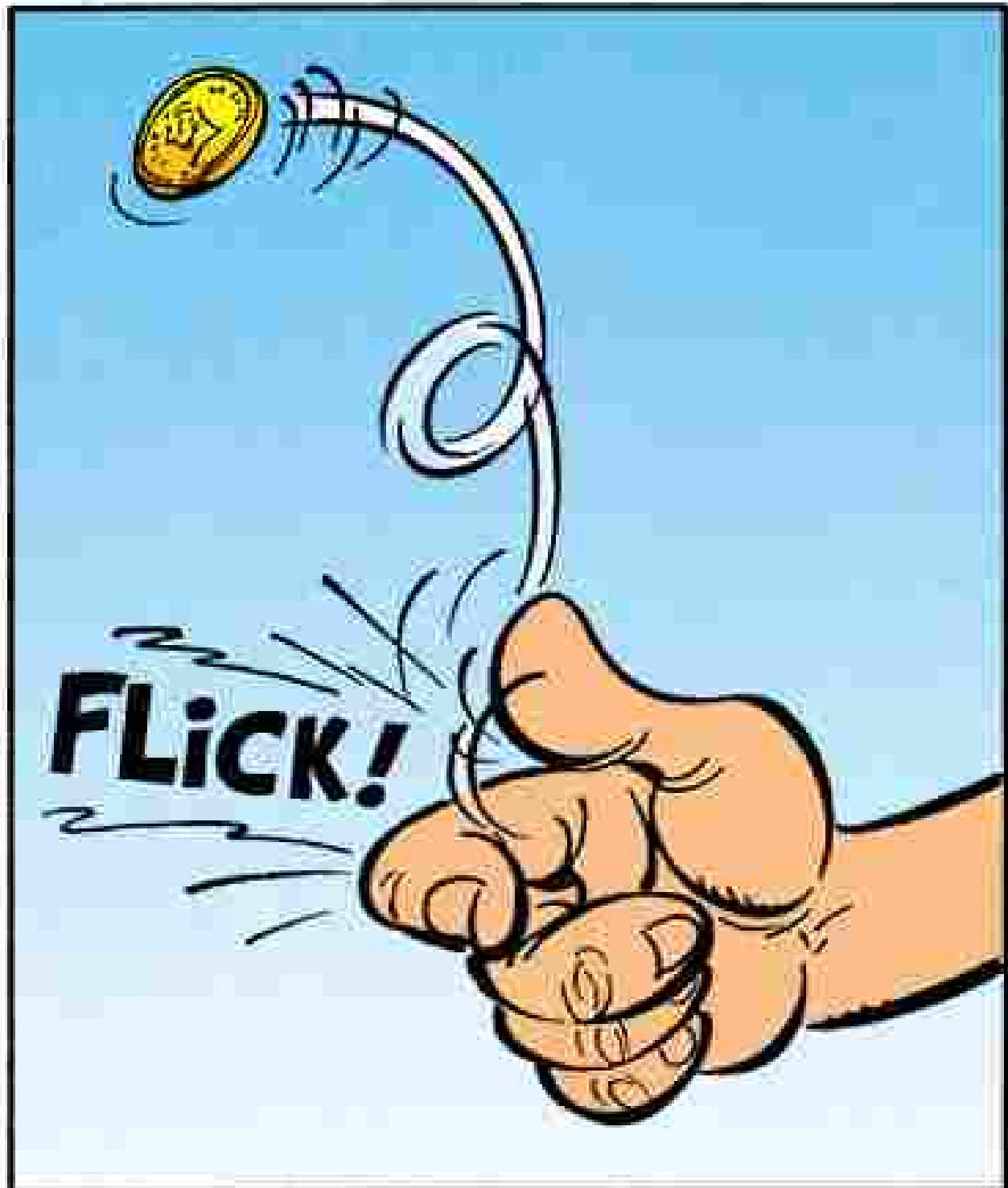
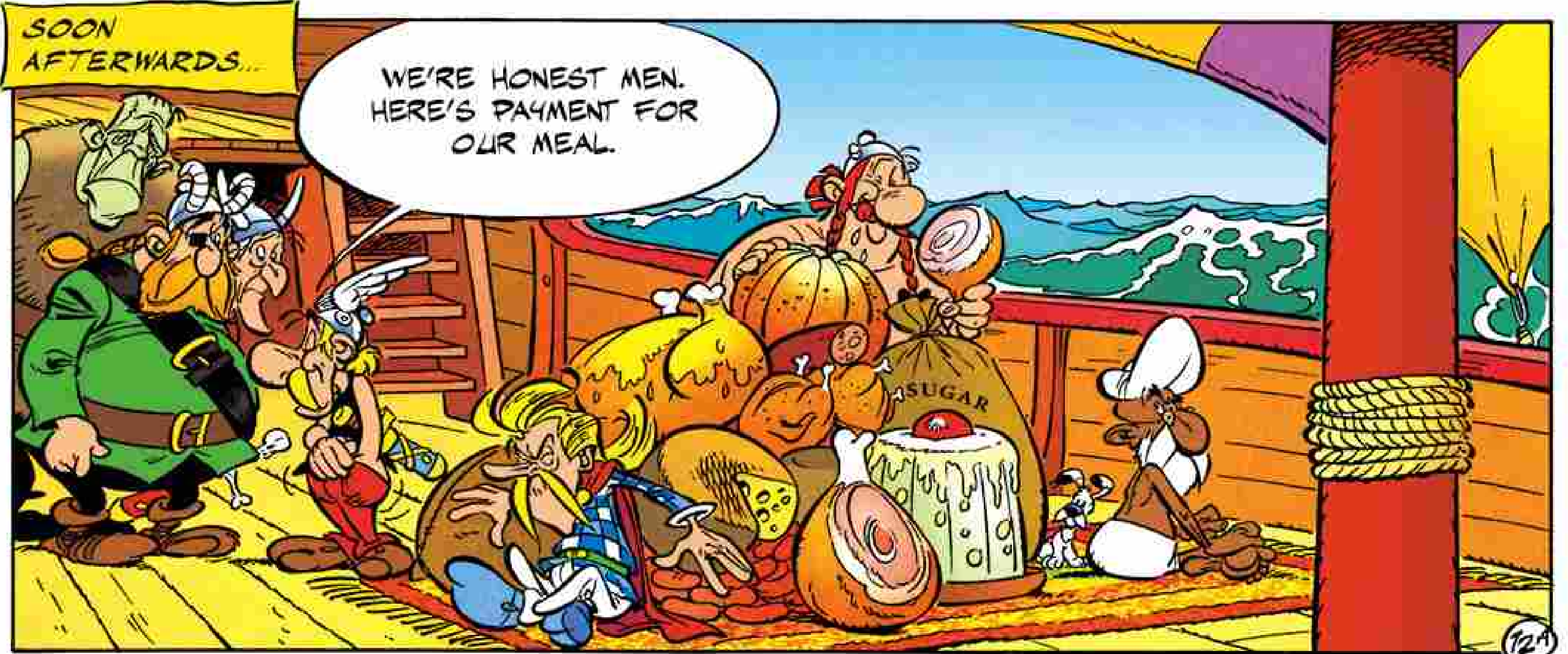
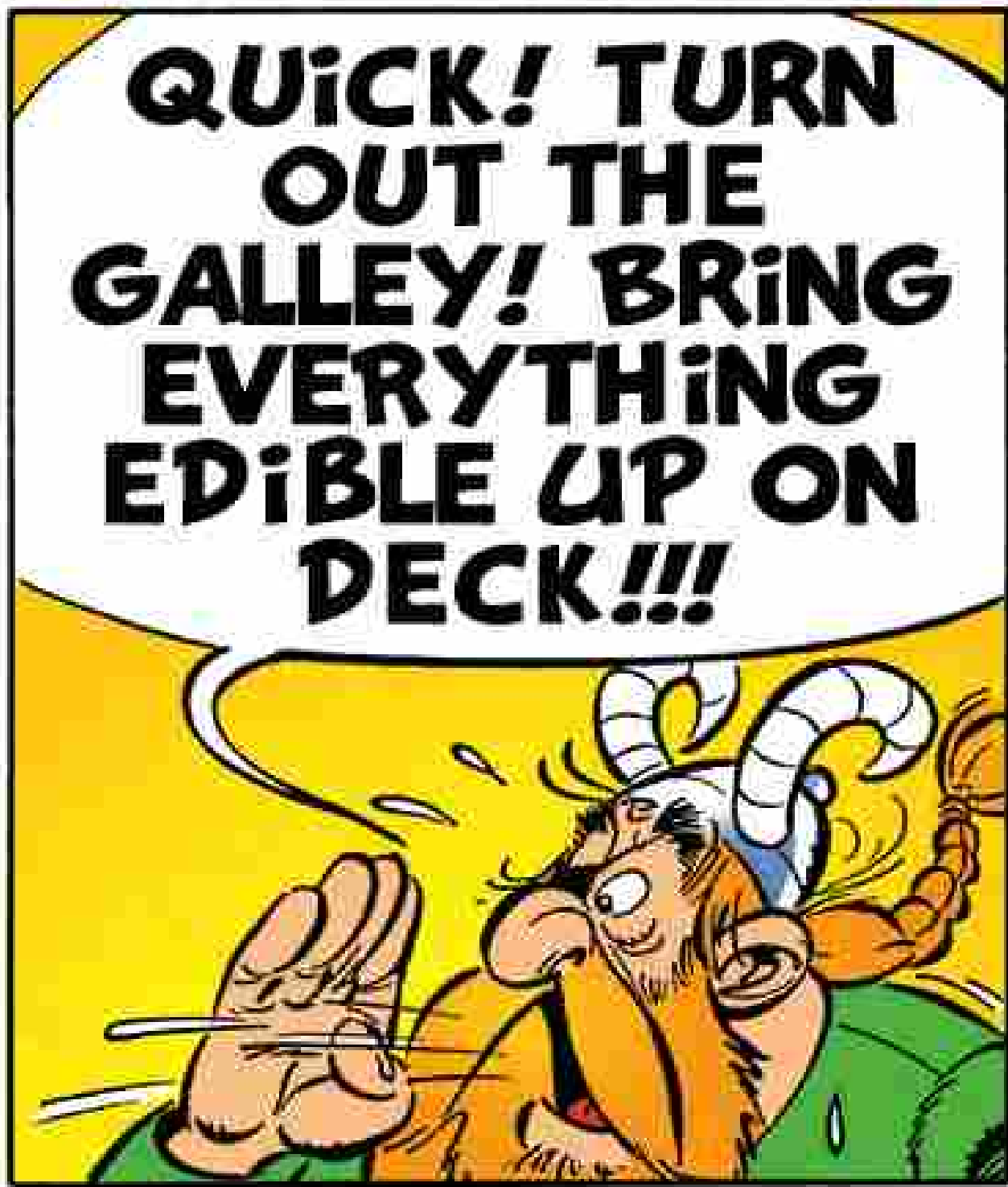
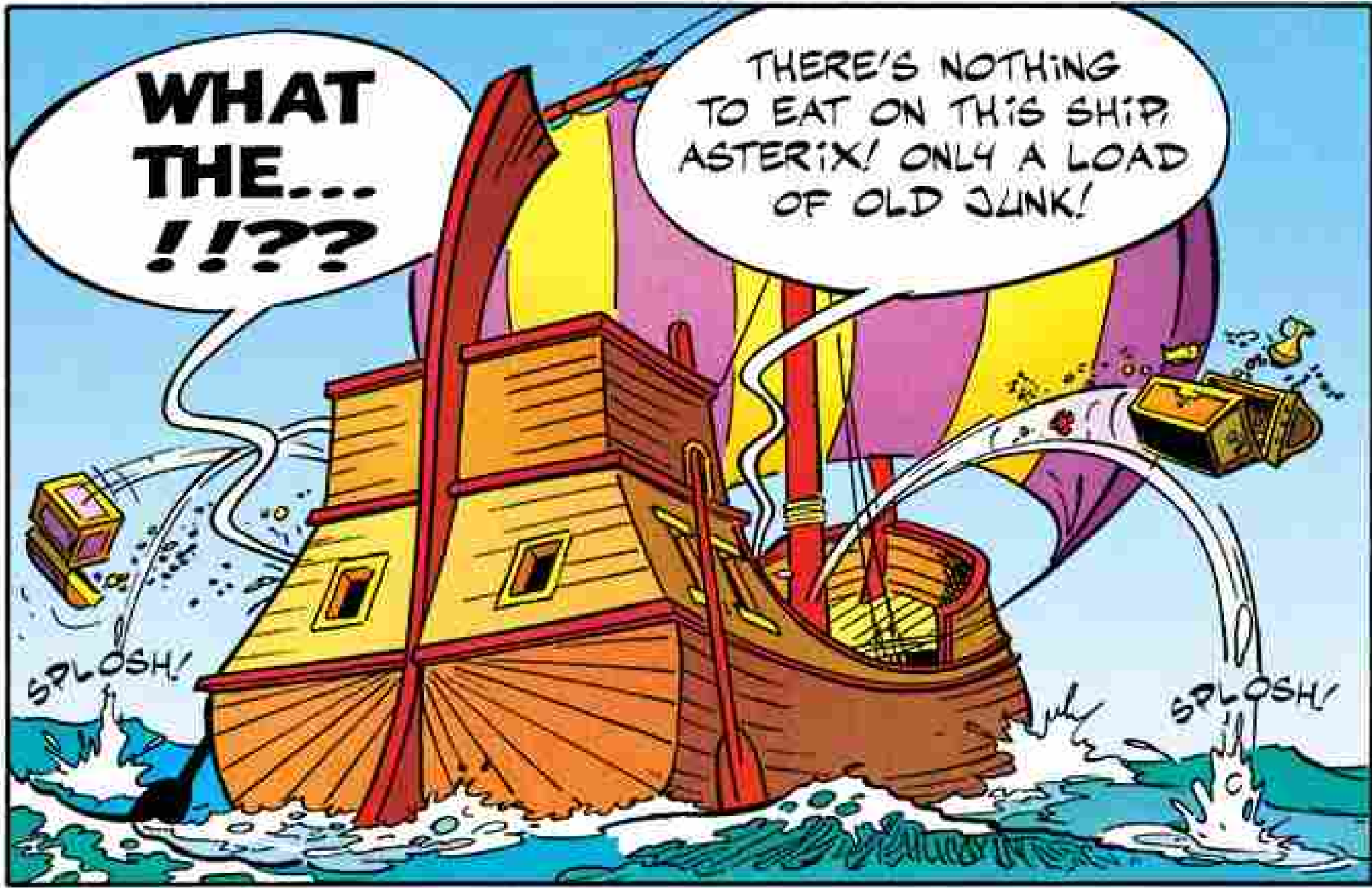


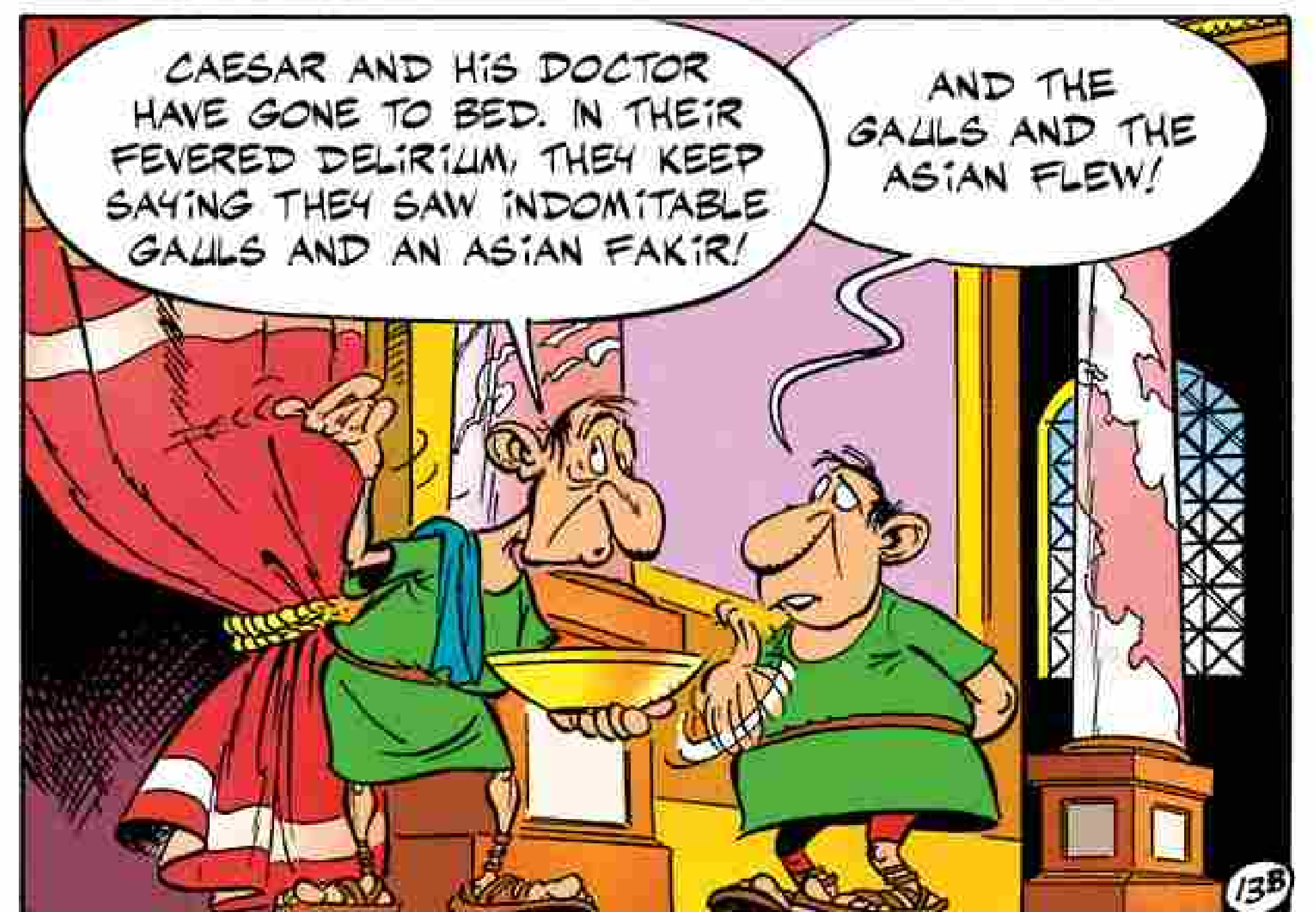
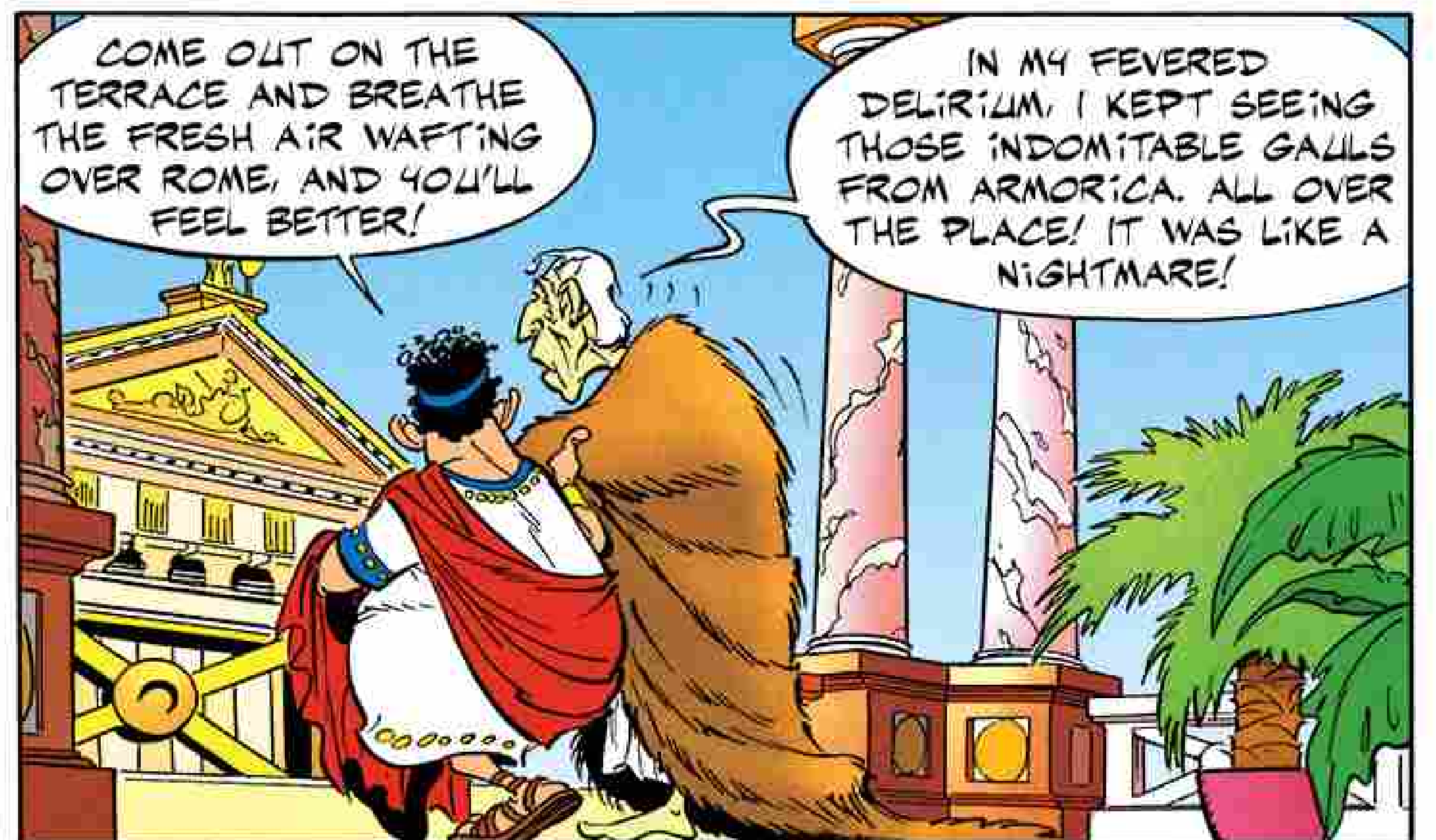
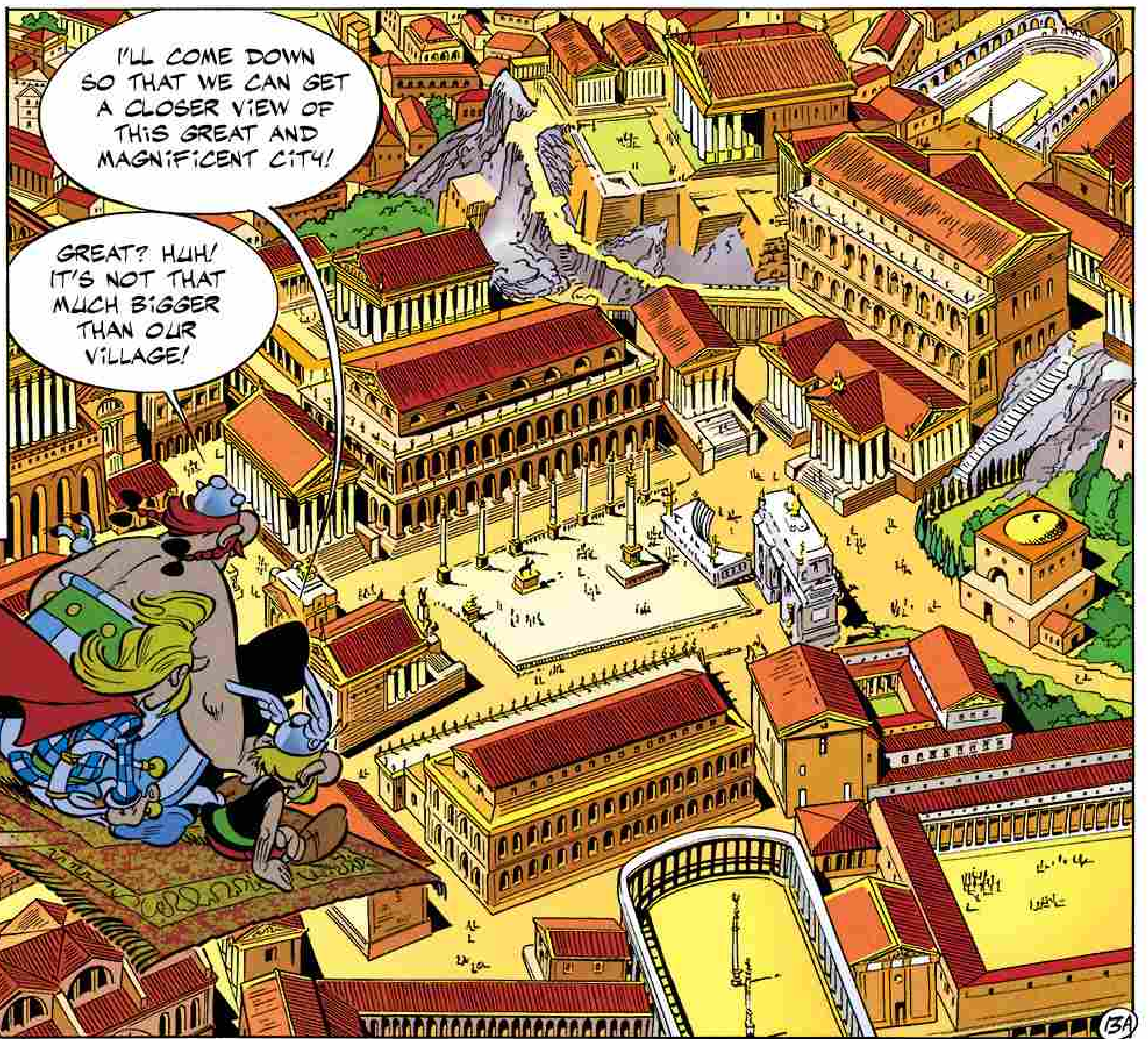


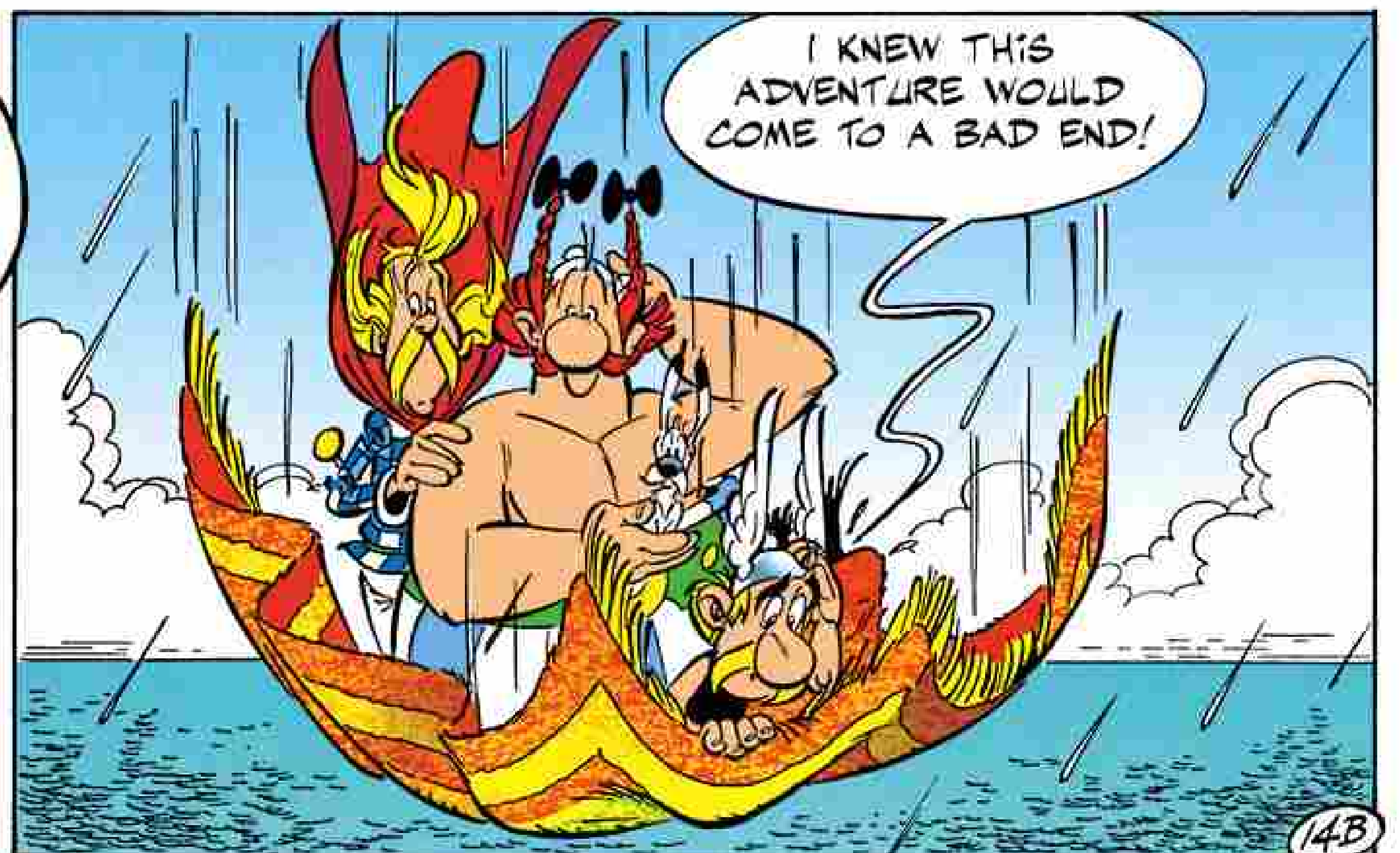
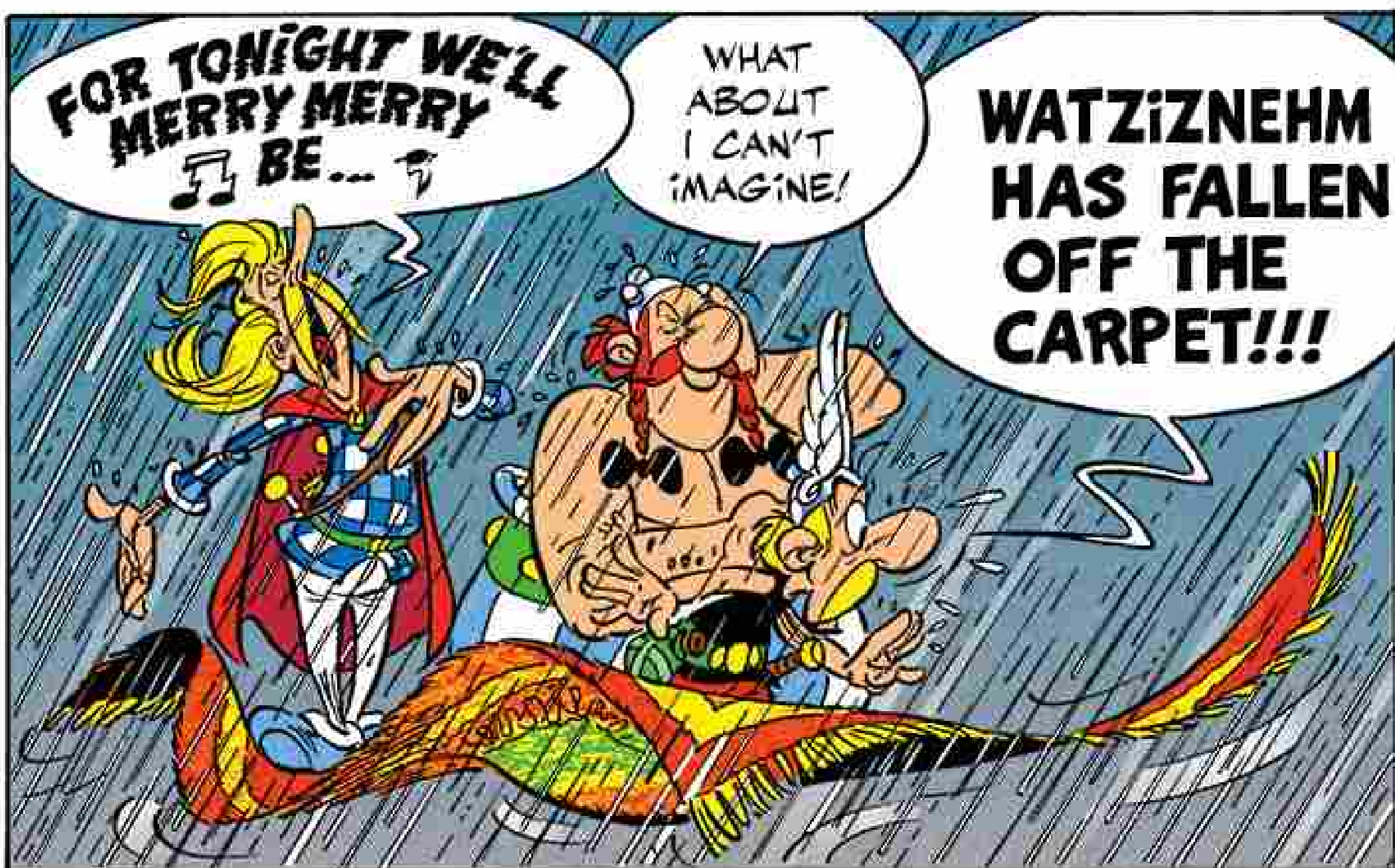
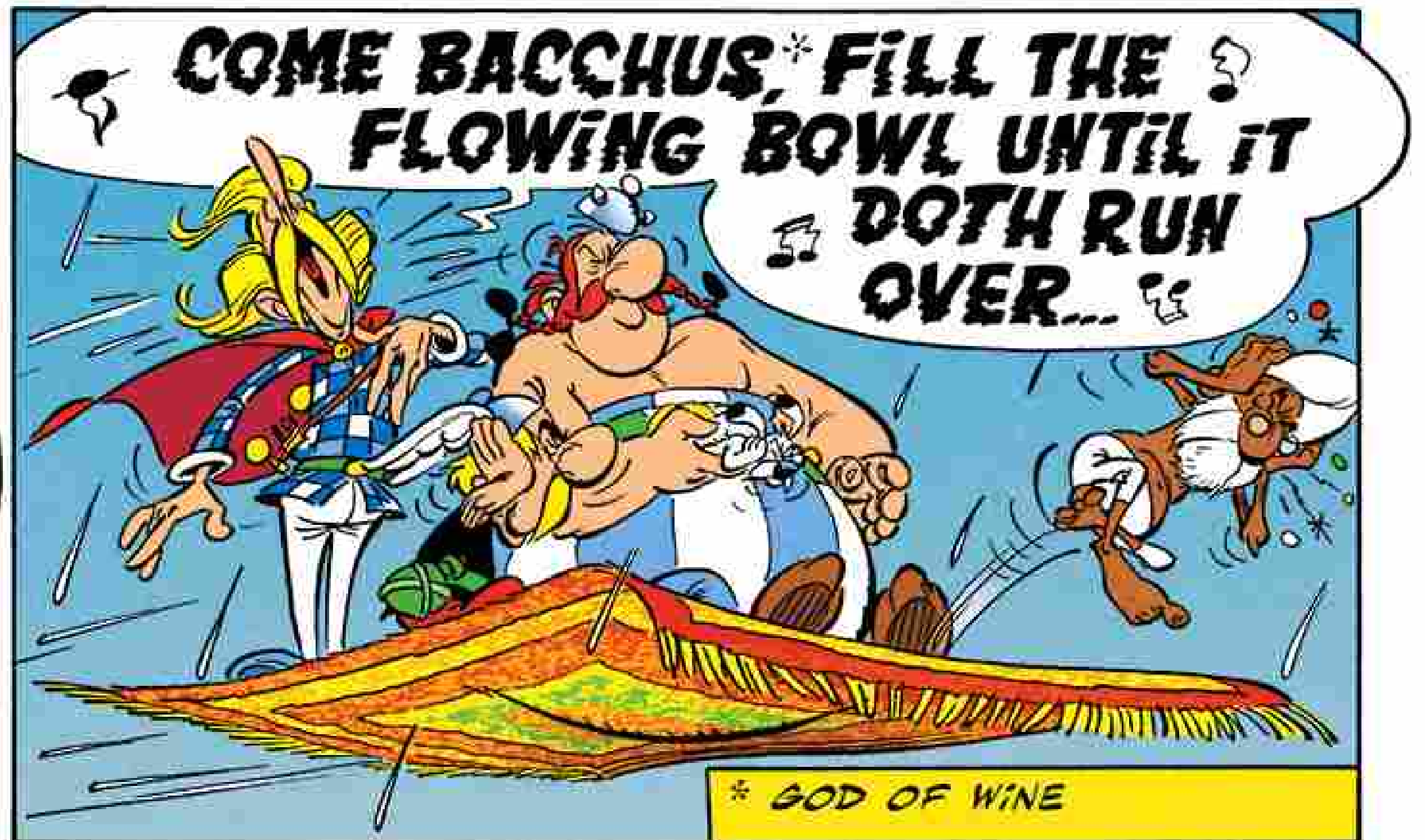
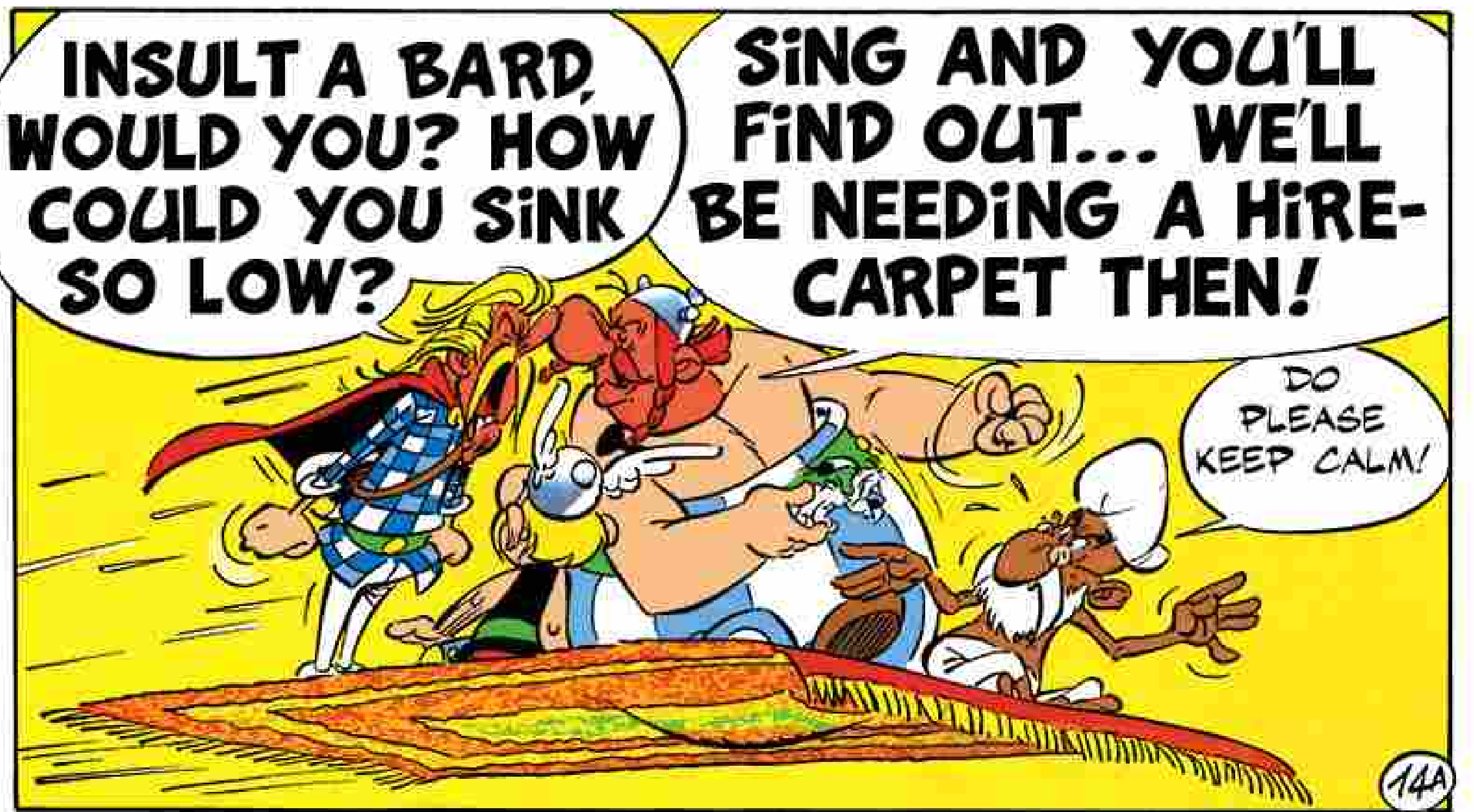
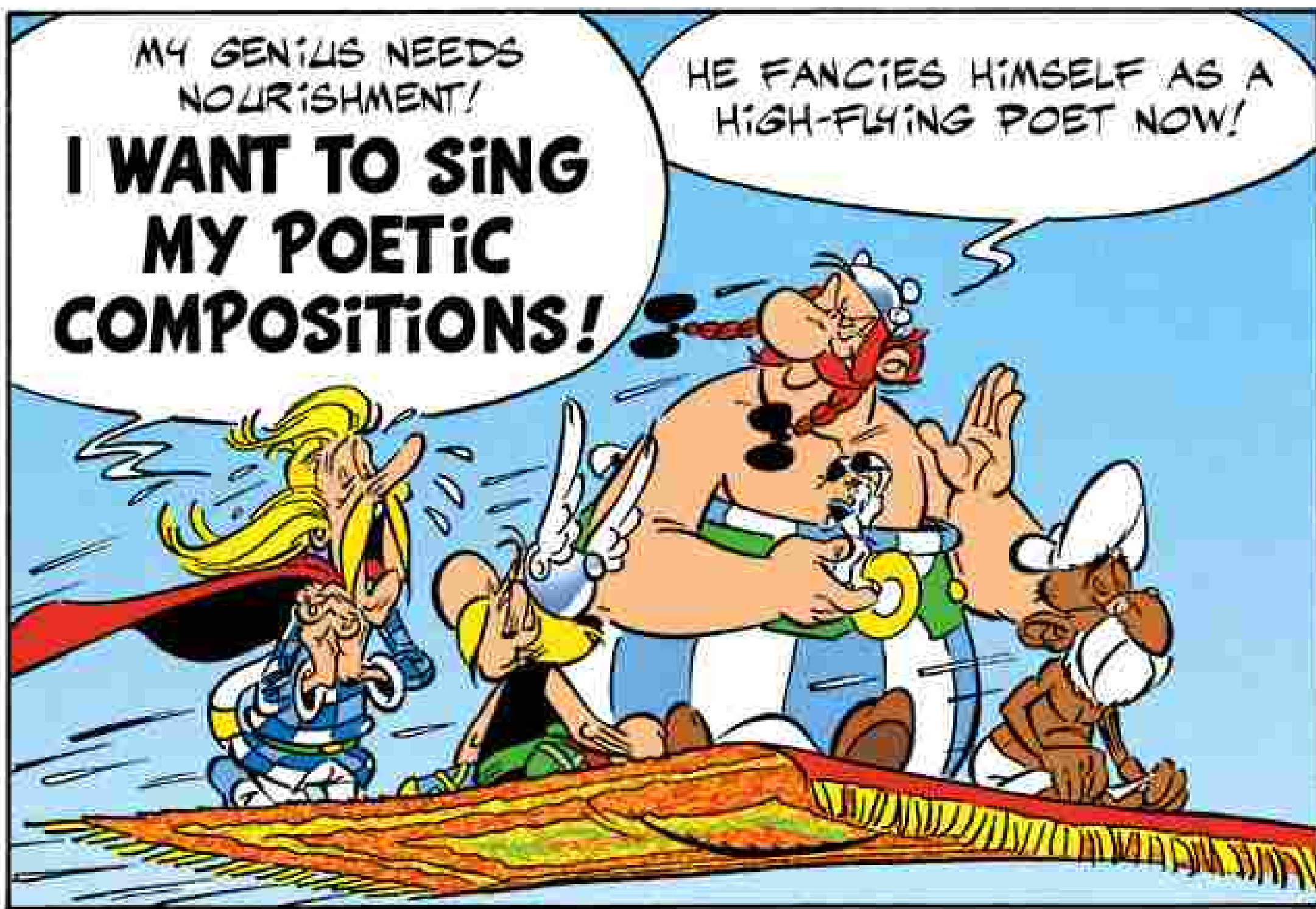
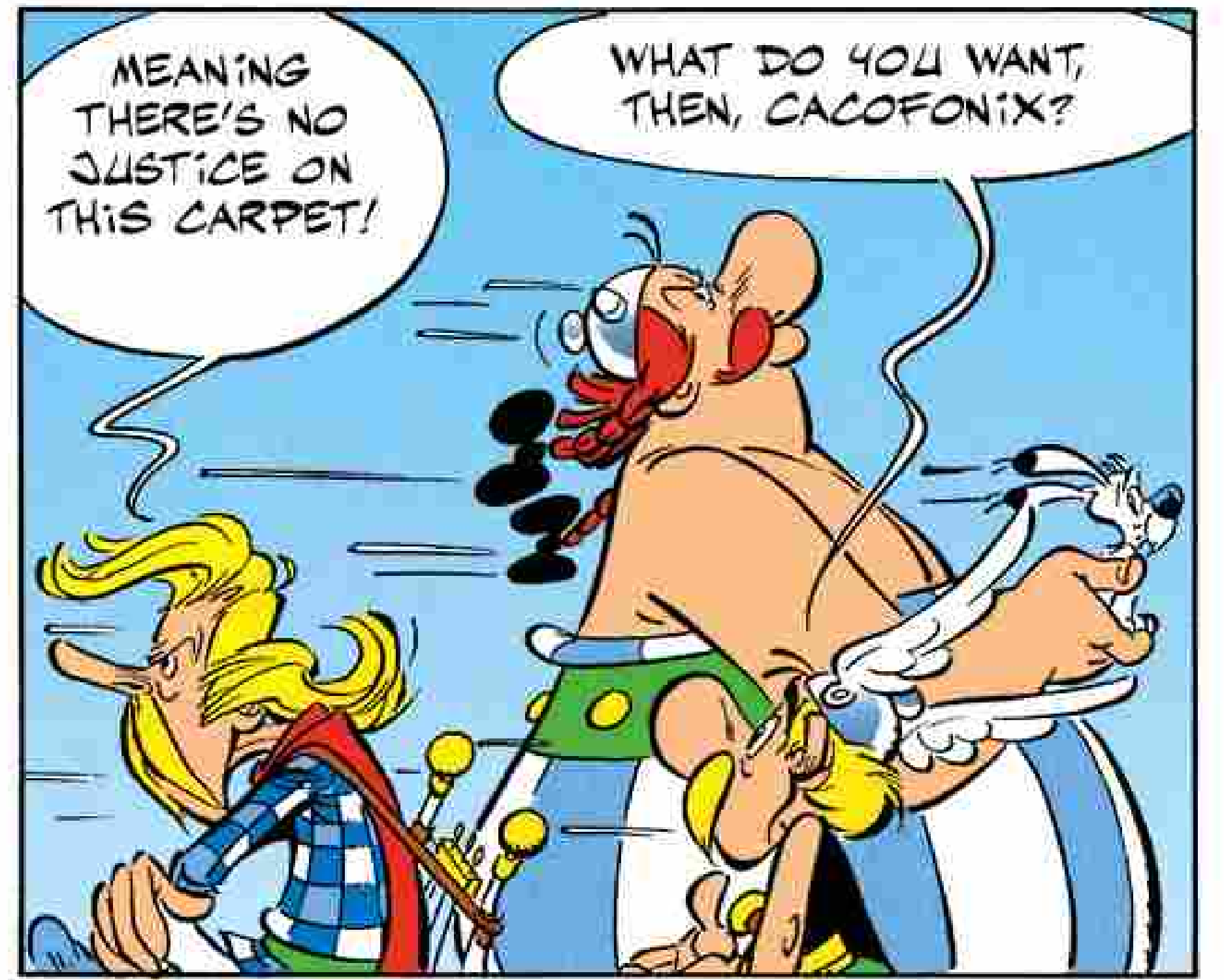
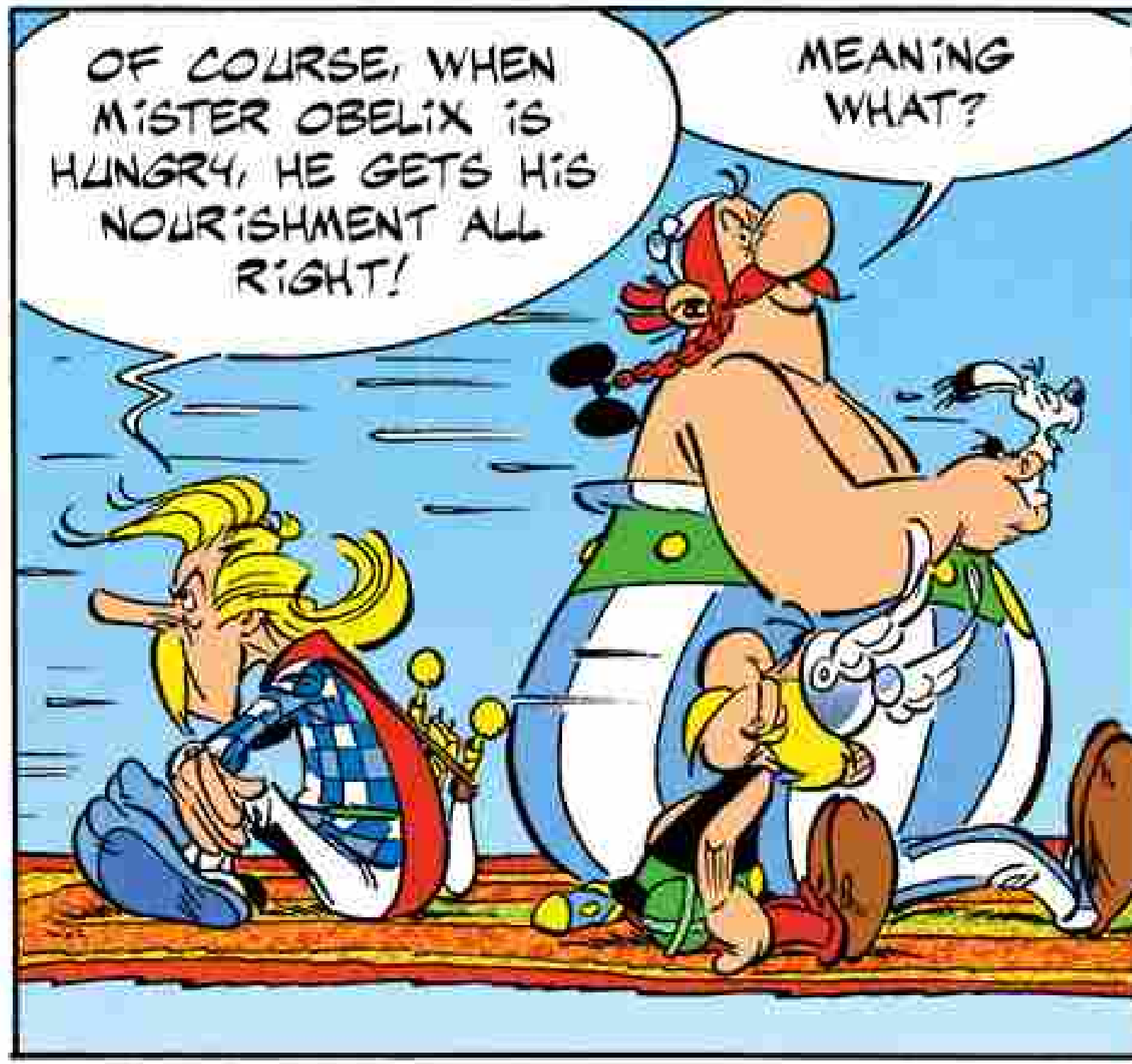
MEANWHILE, FAR AWAY...

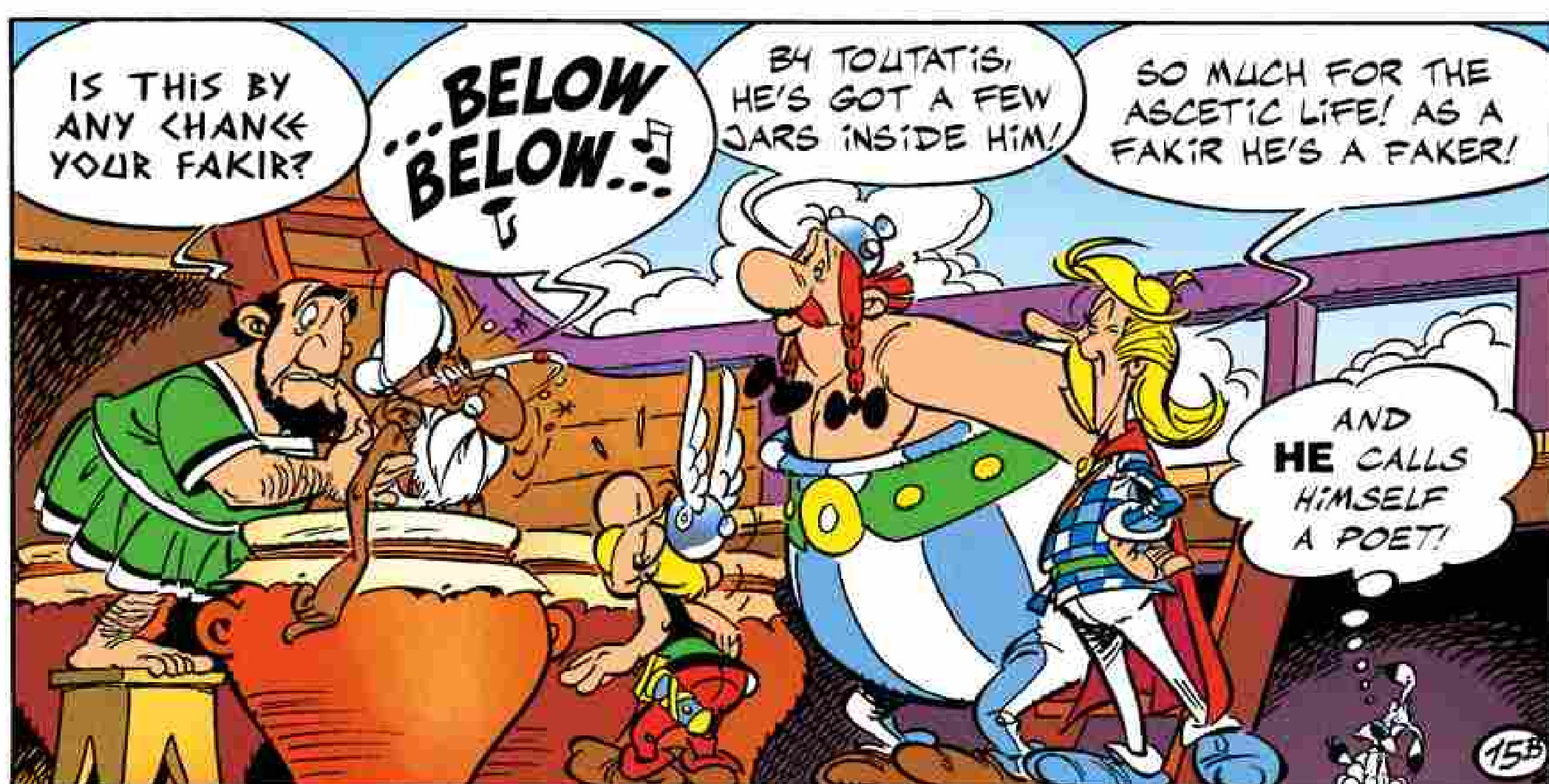
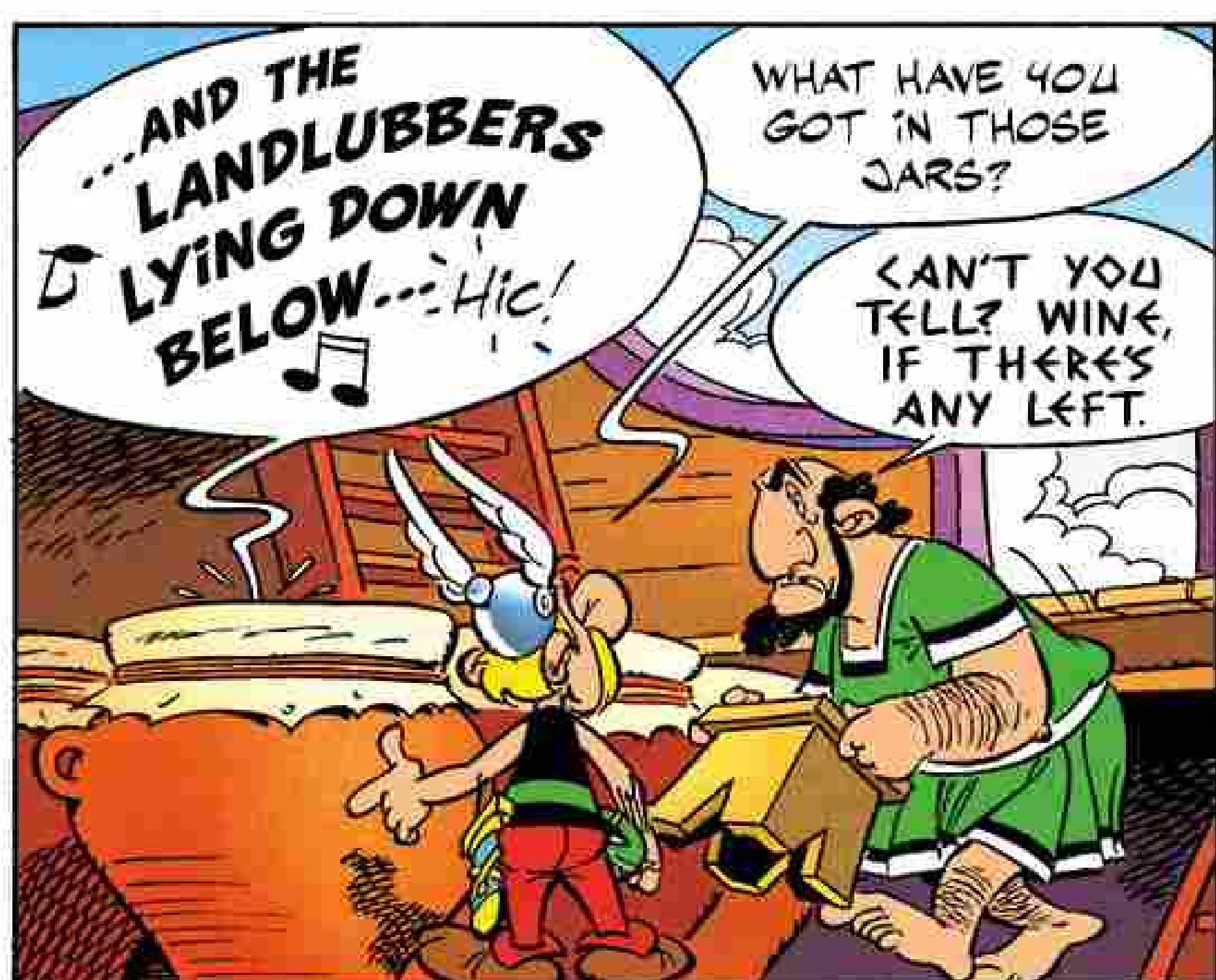
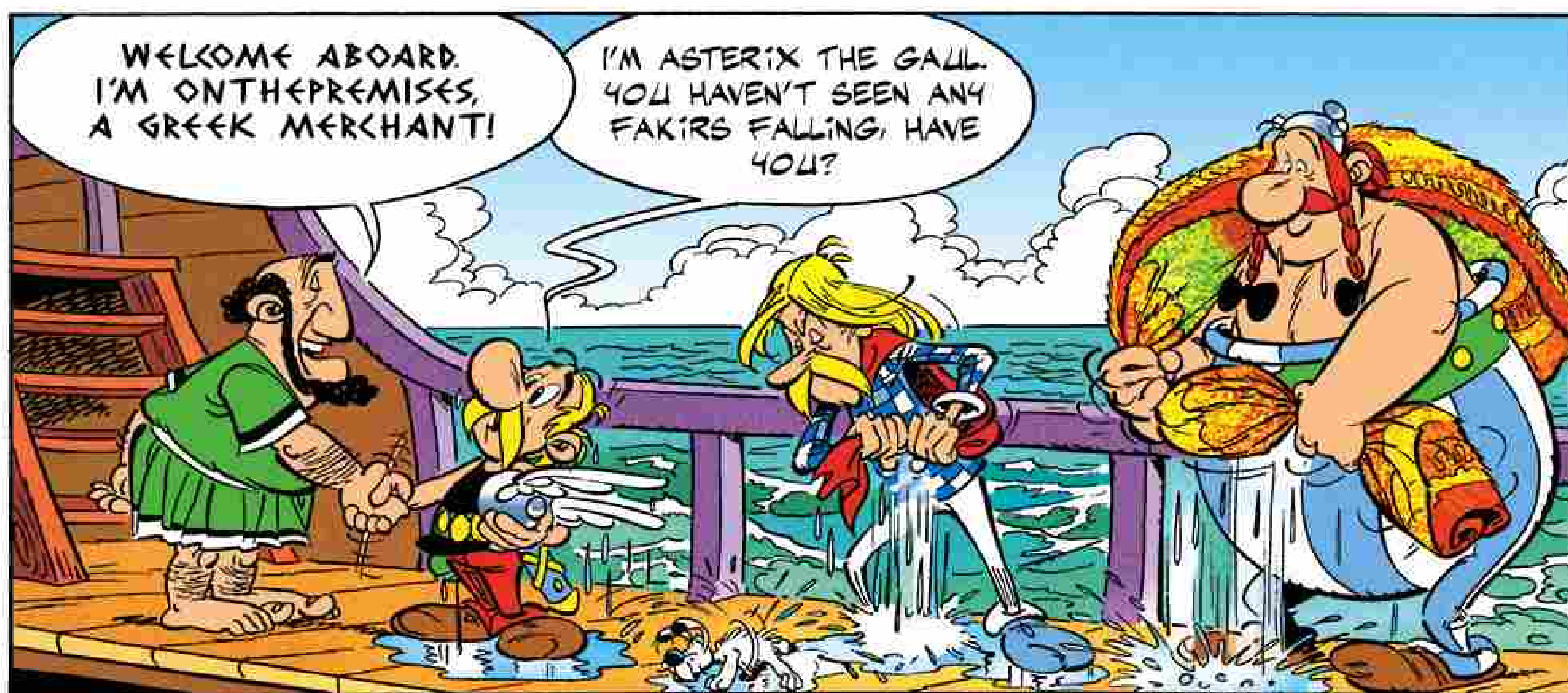


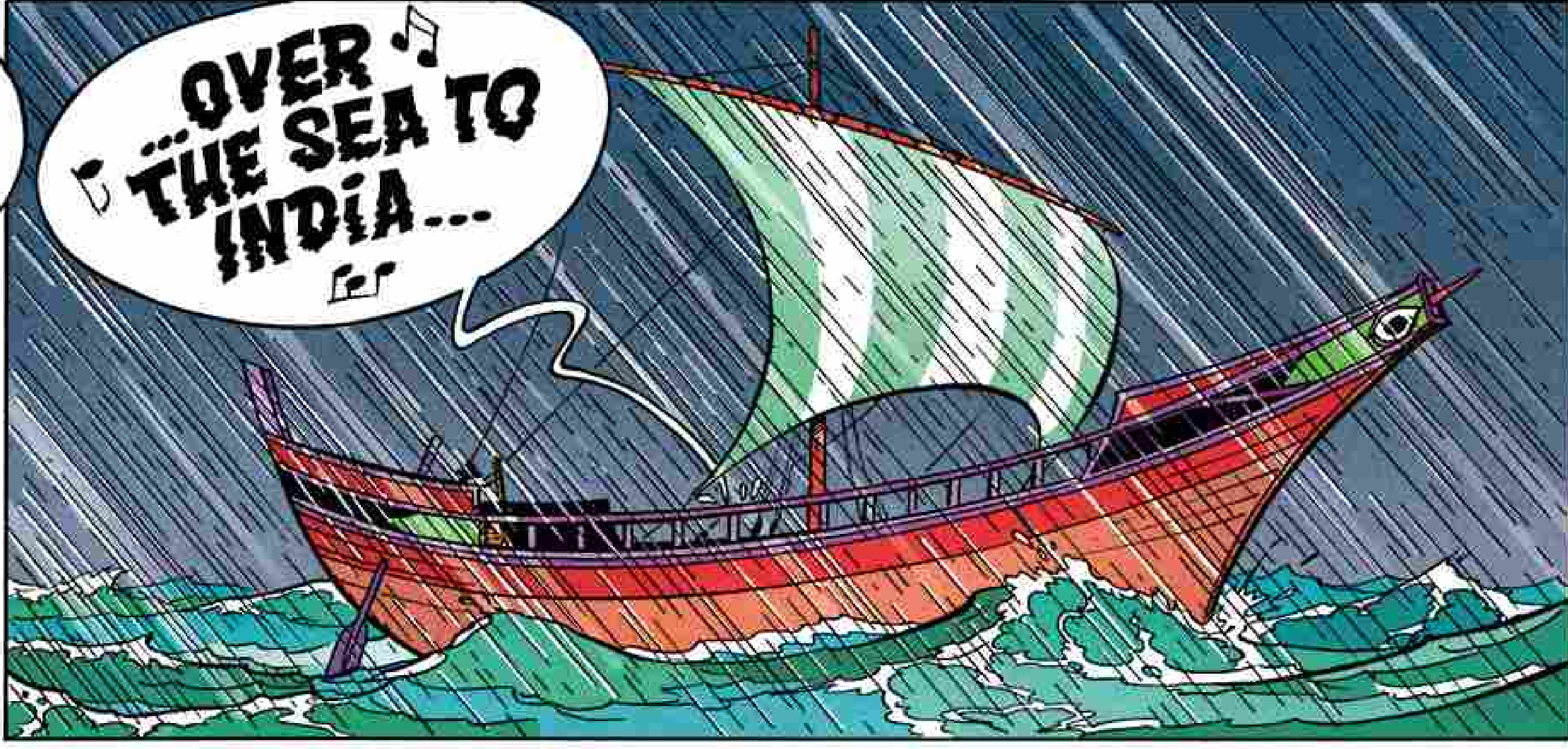
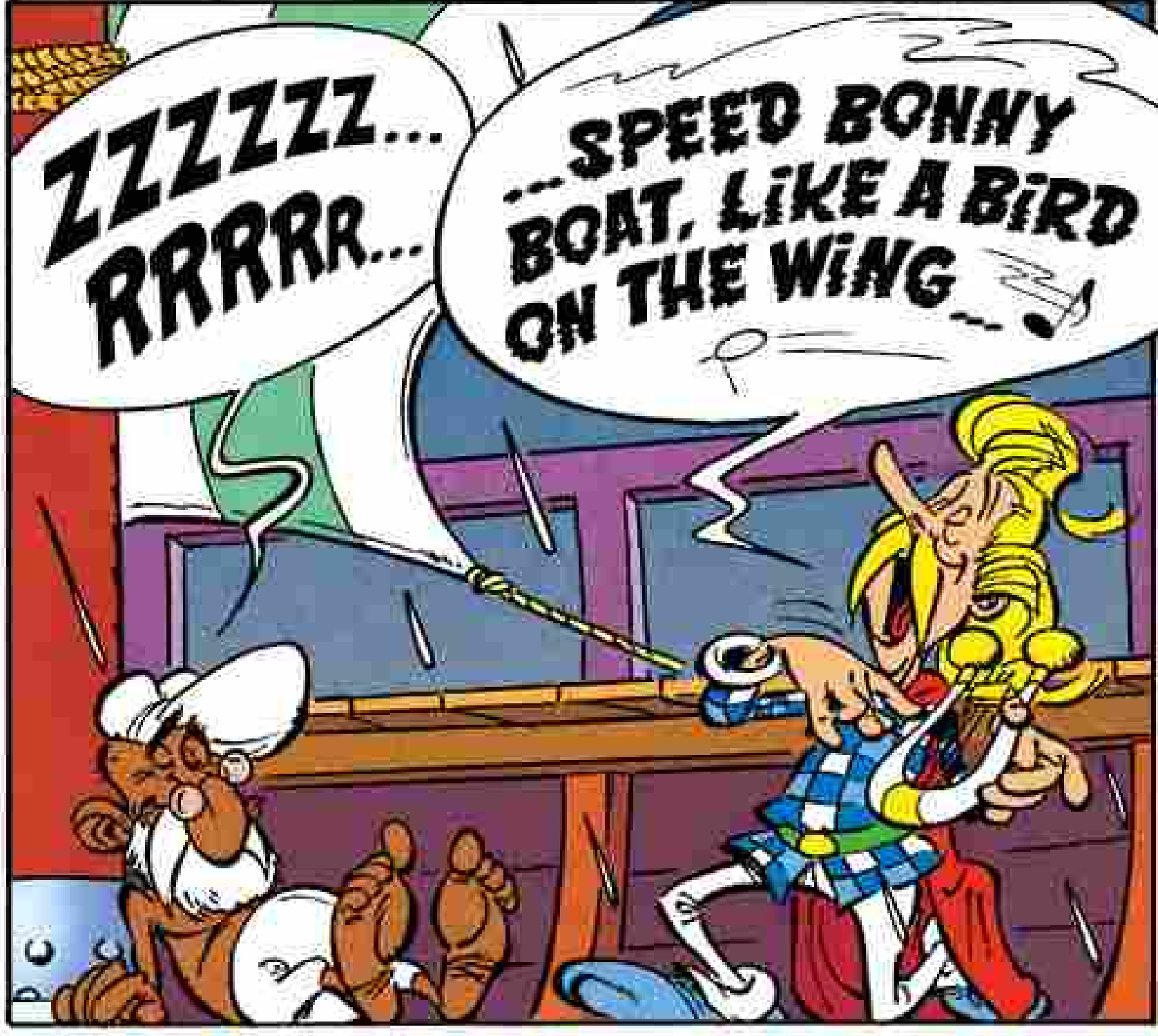


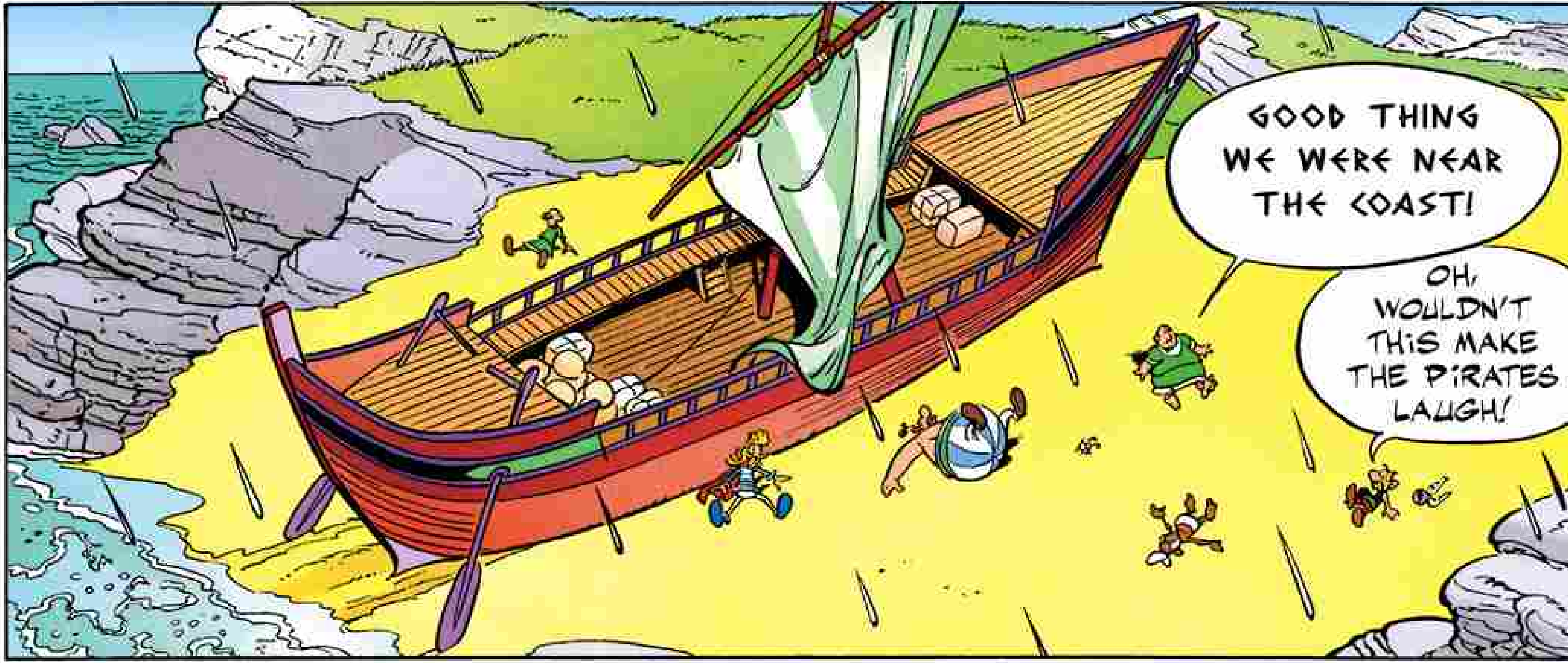










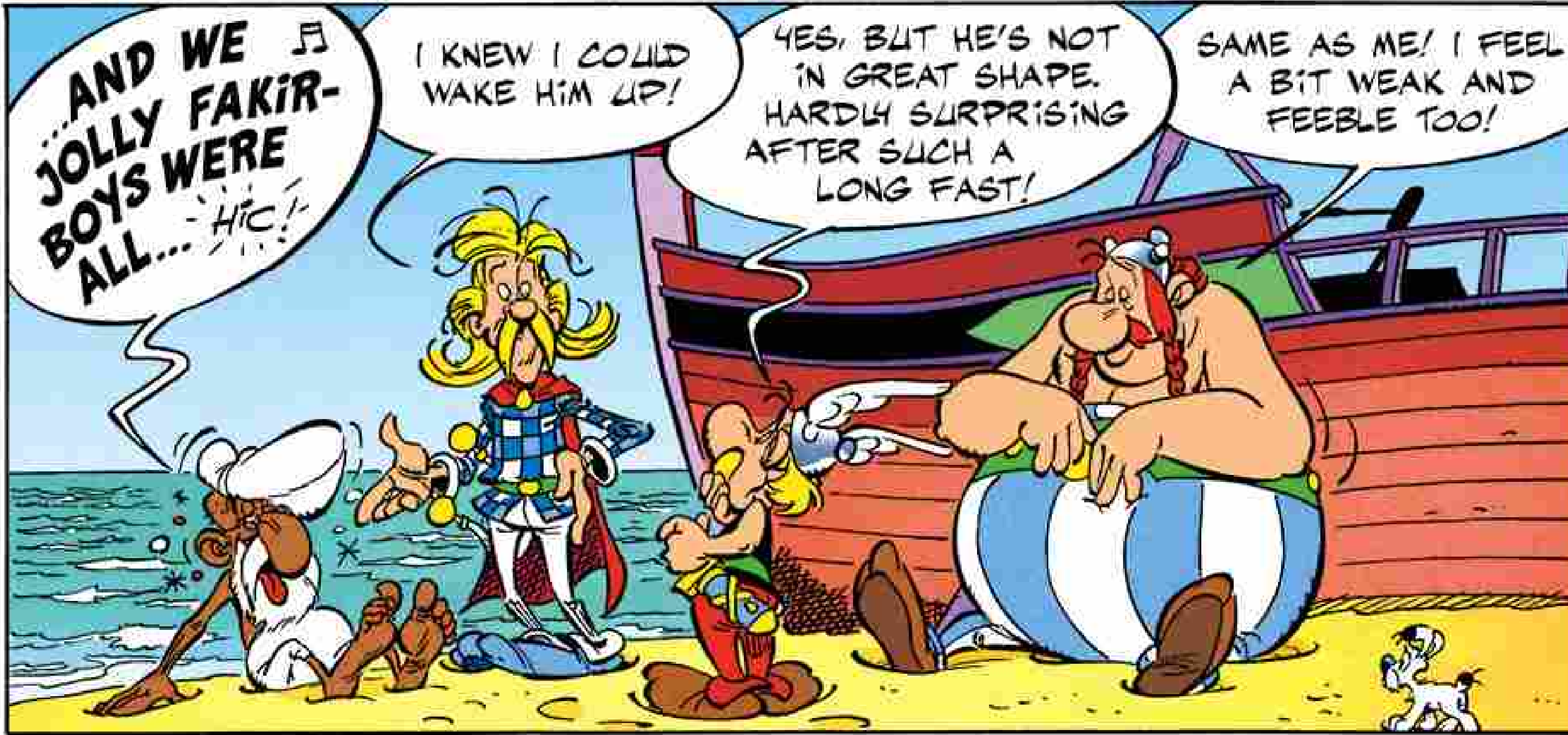


GOOD THING
WE WERE NEAR
THE COAST!

OH,
WOULDN'T
THIS MAKE
THE PIRATES
LAUGH!



TO THINK OF THE SONG
AND DANCE ODYSSEUS
MADE ABOUT THE SIRENS!



AND WE
JOLLY FAKIR-
BOYS WERE
ALL... HIC!

I KNEW I COULD
WAKE HIM UP!

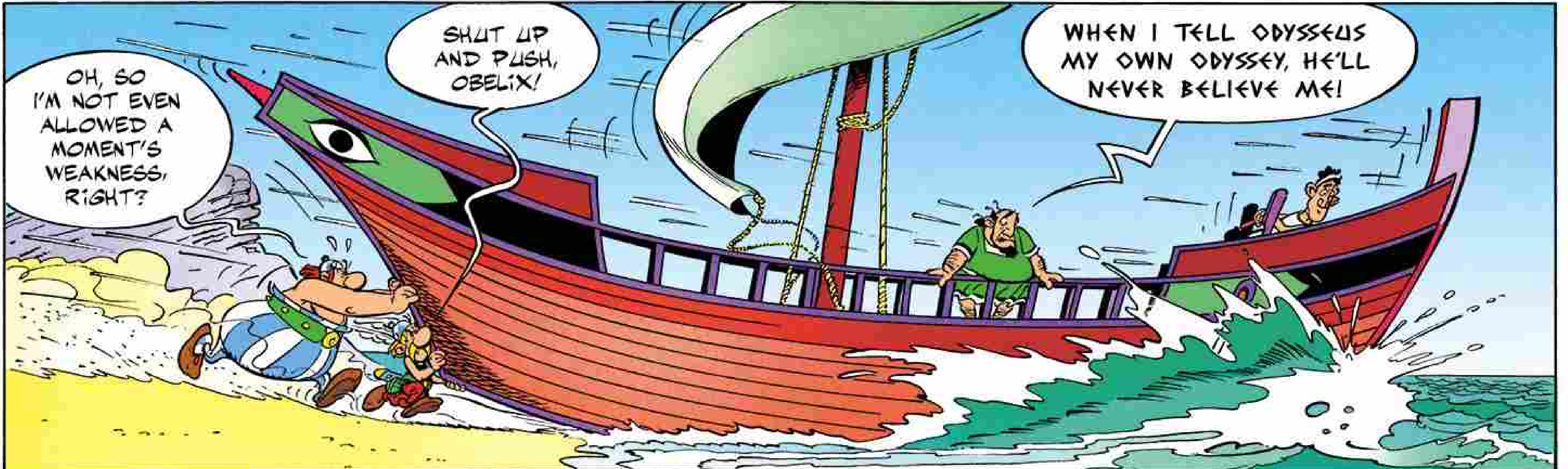
YES, BUT HE'S NOT
IN GREAT SHAPE.
HARDLY SURPRISING
AFTER SUCH A
LONG FAST!

SAME AS ME! I FEEL
A BIT WEAK AND
FEEBLE TOO!



AND WHAT
ARE YOU
GOING TO DO
ABOUT MY
SHIP?

WEAK AND FEEBLE AS HE
MAY BE, OBELIX IS GOING
TO HELP ME RE-FLOAT IT,
ON THE PREMISES!



OH, SO
I'M NOT EVEN
ALLOWED A
MOMENT'S
WEAKNESS,
RIGHT?

SHUT UP
AND PUSH,
OBELIX!

WHEN I TELL ODYSSEUS
MY OWN ODYSSEY, HE'LL
NEVER BELIEVE ME!



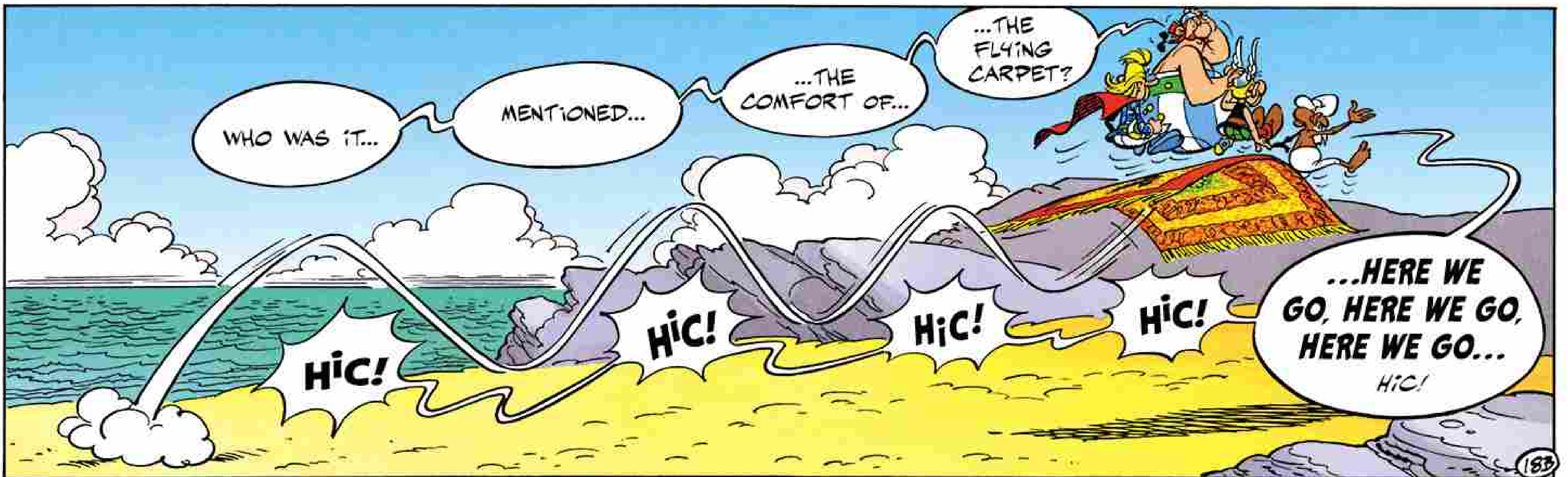
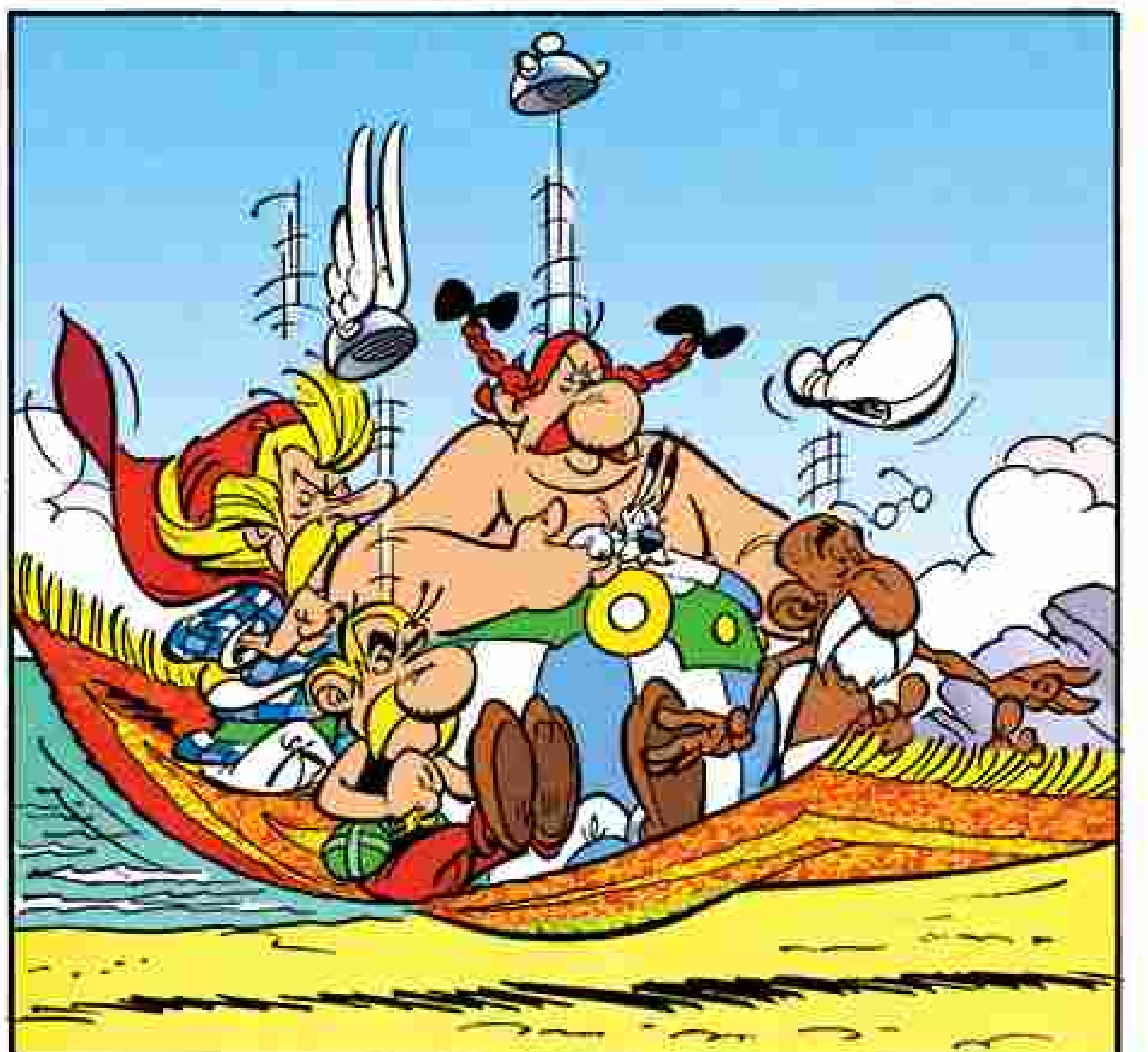
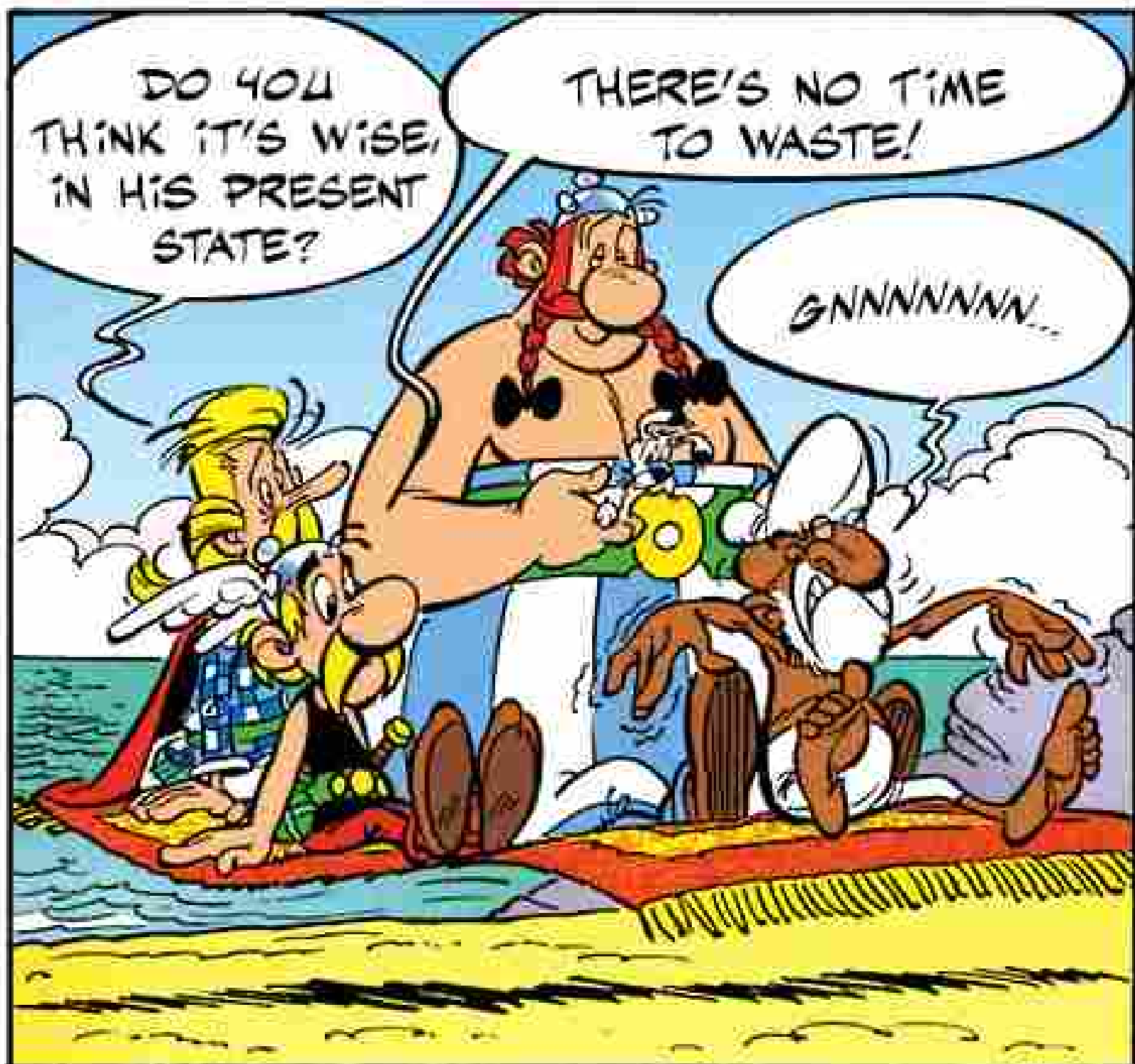
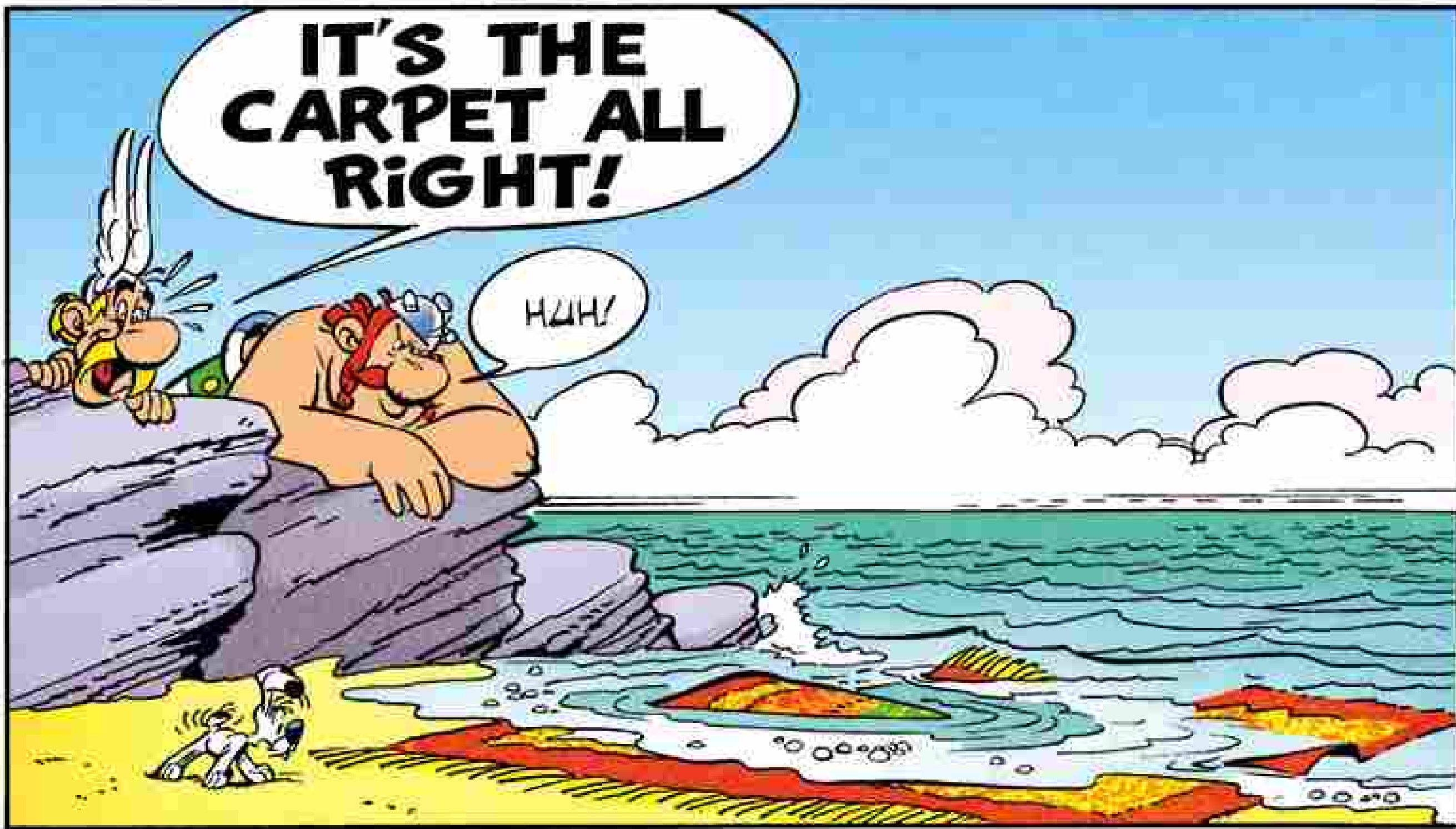
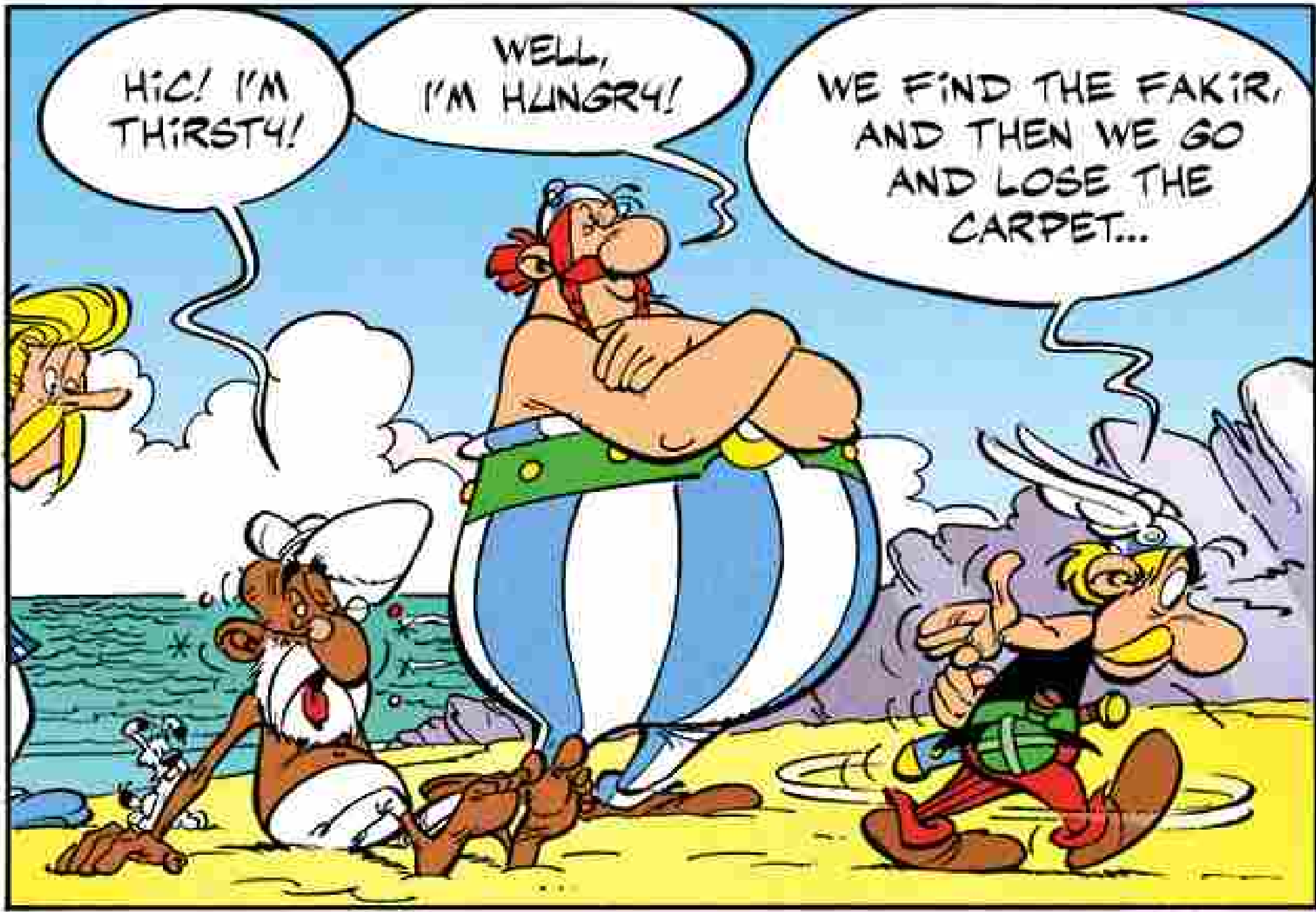
HIC!
LYING
DOWN
BELOW!

WELL, I'LL BE GLAD TO BE
BACK ON THE COMFORT OF
THE FLYING CARPET!

YES...
WHERE IS
IT?



THE CARPET!!
WE'VE
LOST THE
CARPET!!!



MEANWHILE, VERY FAR AWAY...

LEMUHNADÉ,
MY FAITHFUL
LEMUHNADÉ, DO
YOU SEE ANYONE
COMING?

THE ANSWER IS
A LEMON*.

* FRUITLESS

WELL, OWZAT, MY WICKED HENCH-
MAN, THE HEIR OF THIS KINGDOM
WILL SOON BREATHE HER LAST
OF THE AIR OF THIS KINGDOM!
RATHER DRY, EH? HERE'S TO THE
SUCCESS OF OUR PLANS!

YOU ALWAYS DID HAVE
A DRY WIT, O DIVINE
MASTER. CHEERS! AND
MAY THE FORCES OF EVIL
MAKE THAT TALKATIVE
FOOL WATZIZNEHM DRY
UP FOR EVER!

I'M A FOOL,
AND I'VE GOT A
TERRIBLE THIRST!

WELL, I'M NO FOOL, BUT I'VE
GOT A TERRIBLE HUNGER!

WHY BLAME
YOURSELF?
IT'S NOT YOUR
FAULT!

I HAVE COMMITTED
THE SIN OF
GLUTTONY! NET
RESULT: A SPLITTING
HEAD-ACHE AND A
FRIGHTFUL WASTE
OF TIME!

WELL, WE'LL SOON BE FLYING
OVER ATHENS, AND THEN WE
LEAVE GREECE BEHIND!

SURE ENOUGH, AFTER A HUNDRED
AND FIFTY HOURS' FLYING TIME...

REMEMBER OUR
TRIP TO THE
OLYMPIC GAMES,
OBELIX?

YES,
SPECIALLY THERMOS'S
LITTLE RESTAURANT AND HIS
STUFFED VINE LEAVES, KEBABS,
OLIVES, WATER MELON
AND RESINATED WINE! *
(SIGH)

* SEE ASTERIX AT THE OLYMPIC GAMES

THE HOURS PASS INEXORABLY BY... THEREBY HANGS MANY A TALE.

WE SHALL SOON BE LEAVING THE SEA FOR THE LAST TIME AND FLYING OVER THE LANDS OF THE ORIENT!

GOOD! WE CAN COME DOWN AND HAVE SOME DINNER AT LAST!

TWANG!

OOOWWW!

?

OBELIX!

HOWL! HOWL! HOWL!

QUICK! HE'S FALLING!!!

I CAN STILL SEE HIM... I'LL TRY FLYING UNDERNEATH HIM!

POF!

ALL RIGHT, OBELIX?

WHAT HAPPENED TO ME? WHAT HAPPENED TO ME?

WOOF! WOOF!

THEY'RE STILL SHOOTING AT US, BY TOUTATIS!

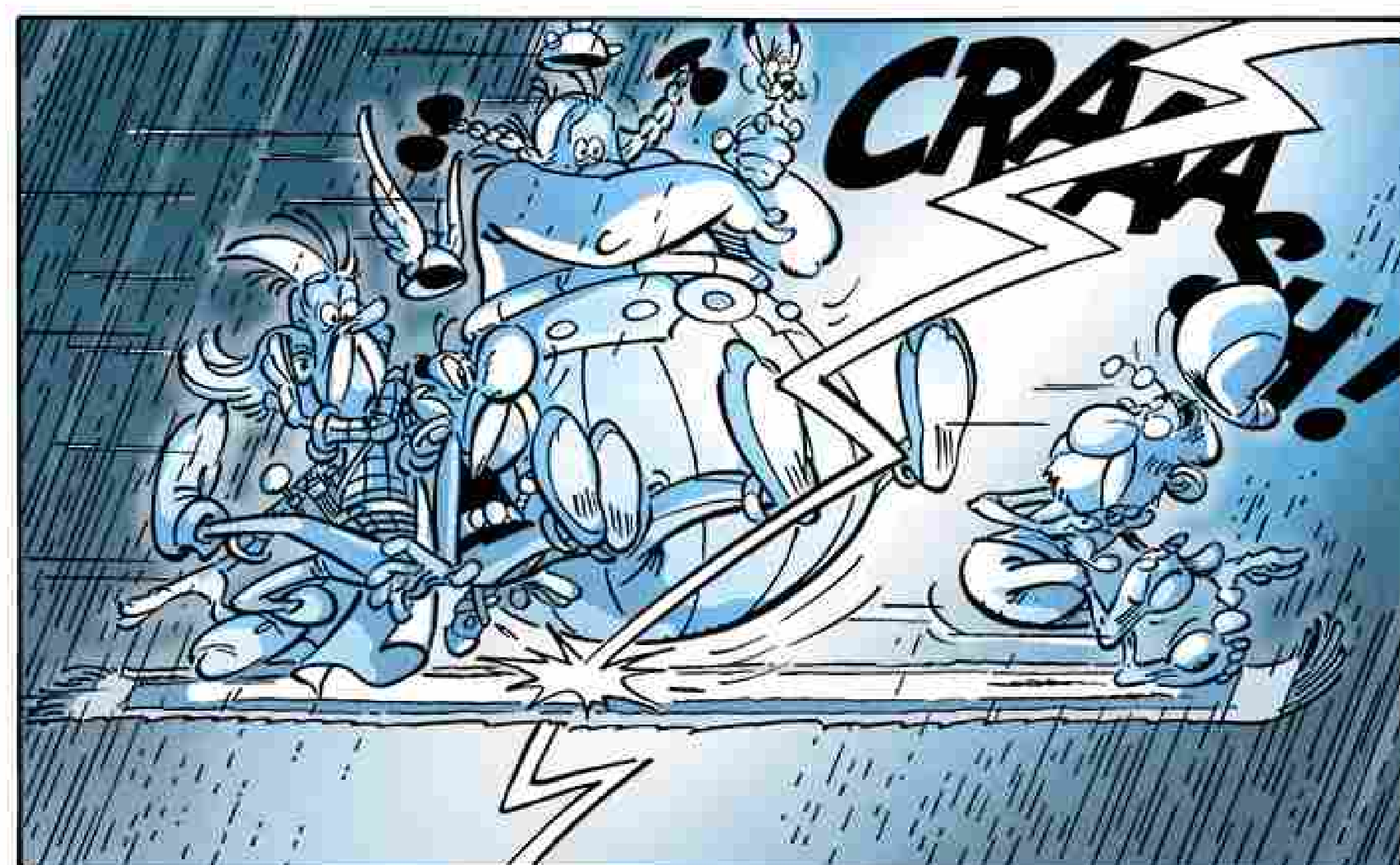
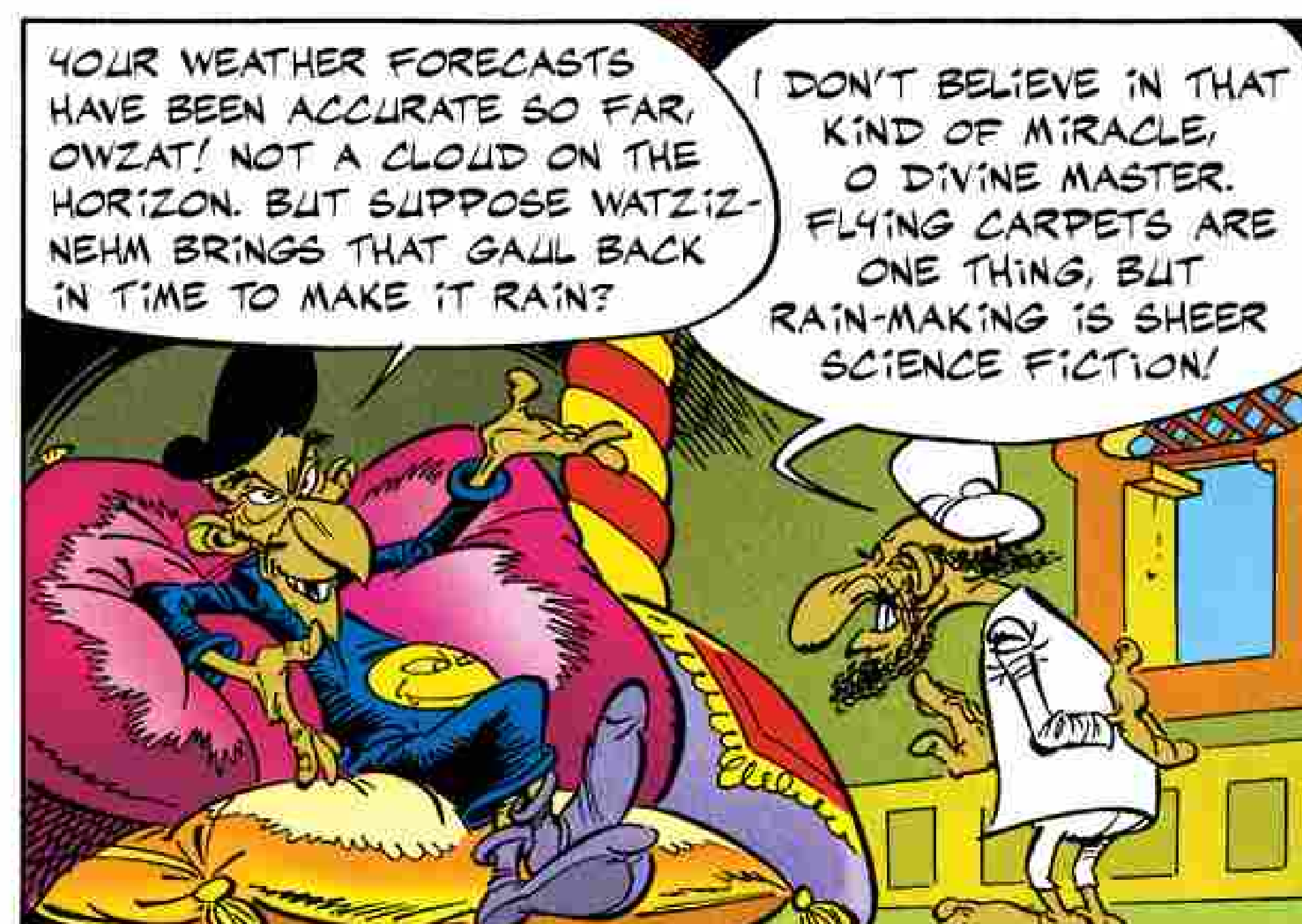
WE'RE OVER TYRE*. YES, IT IS RATHER TIRESOME.

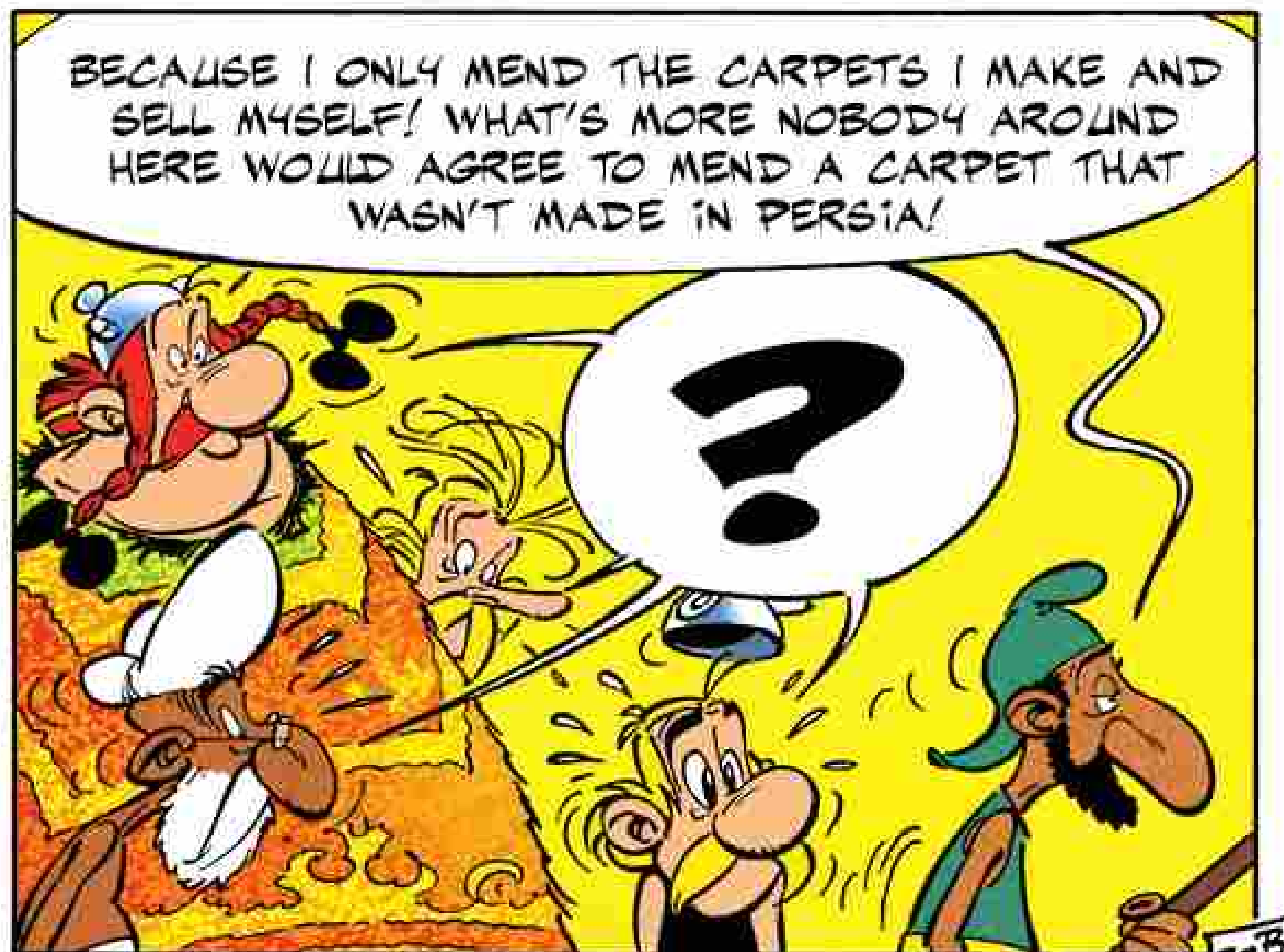
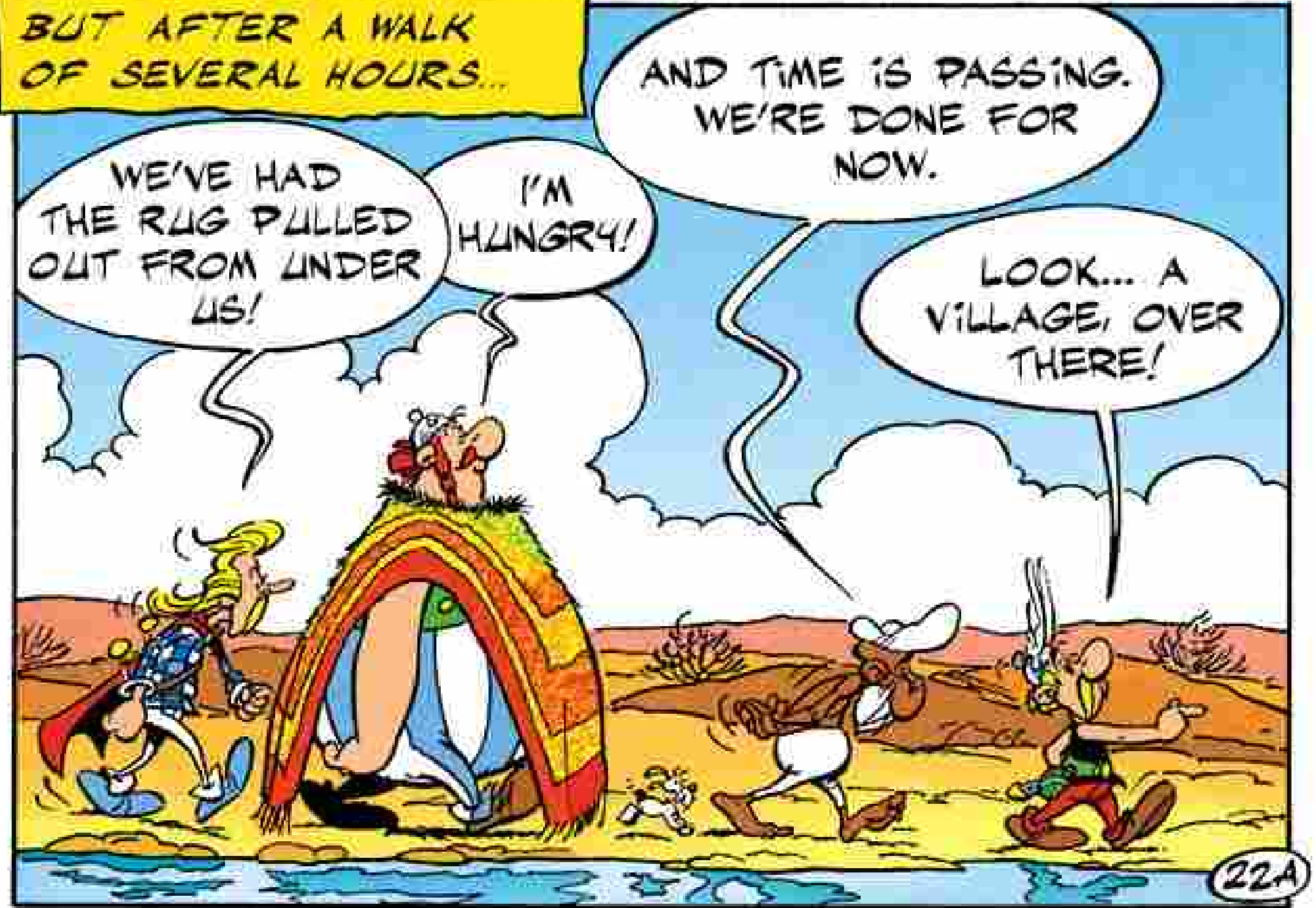
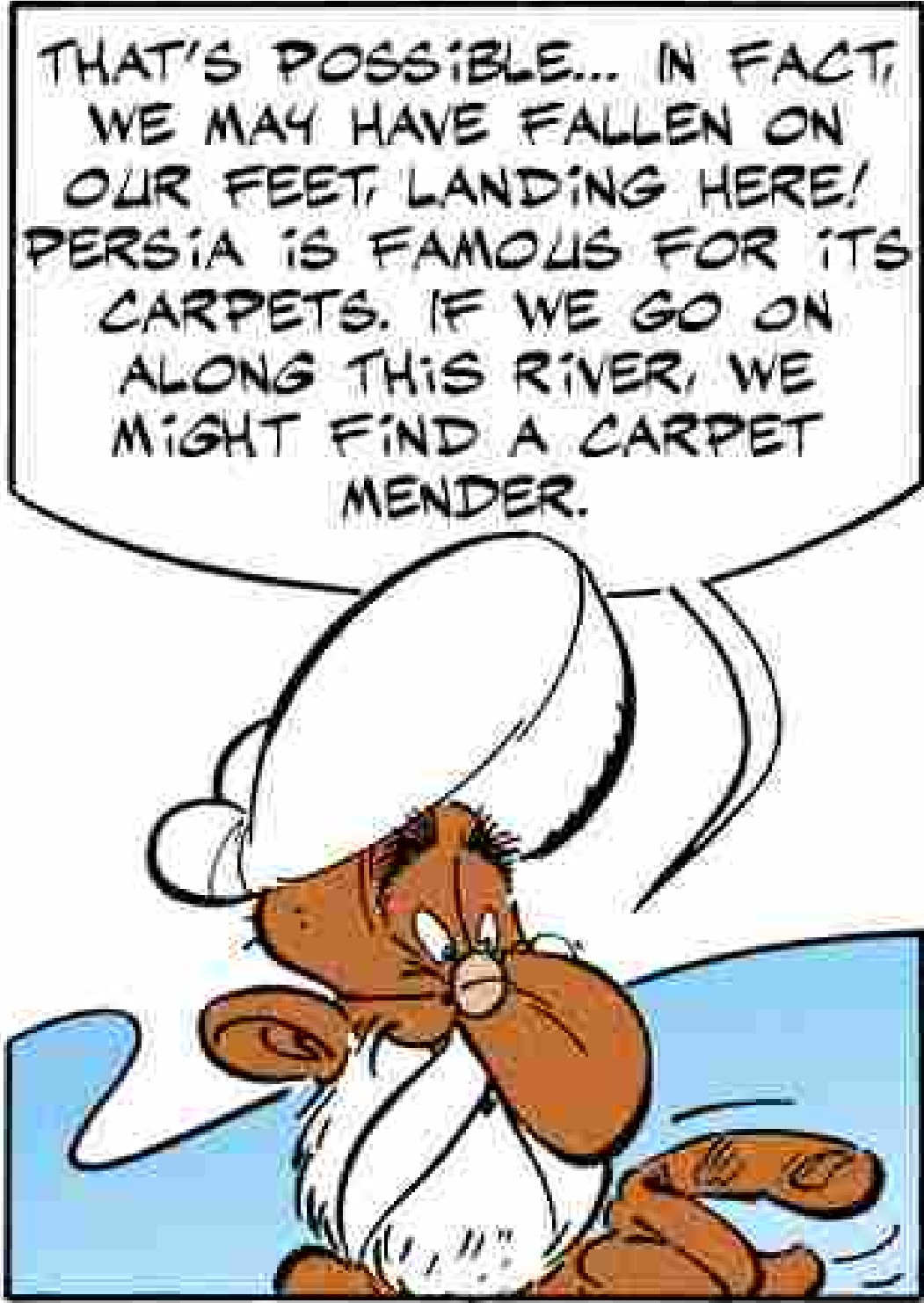
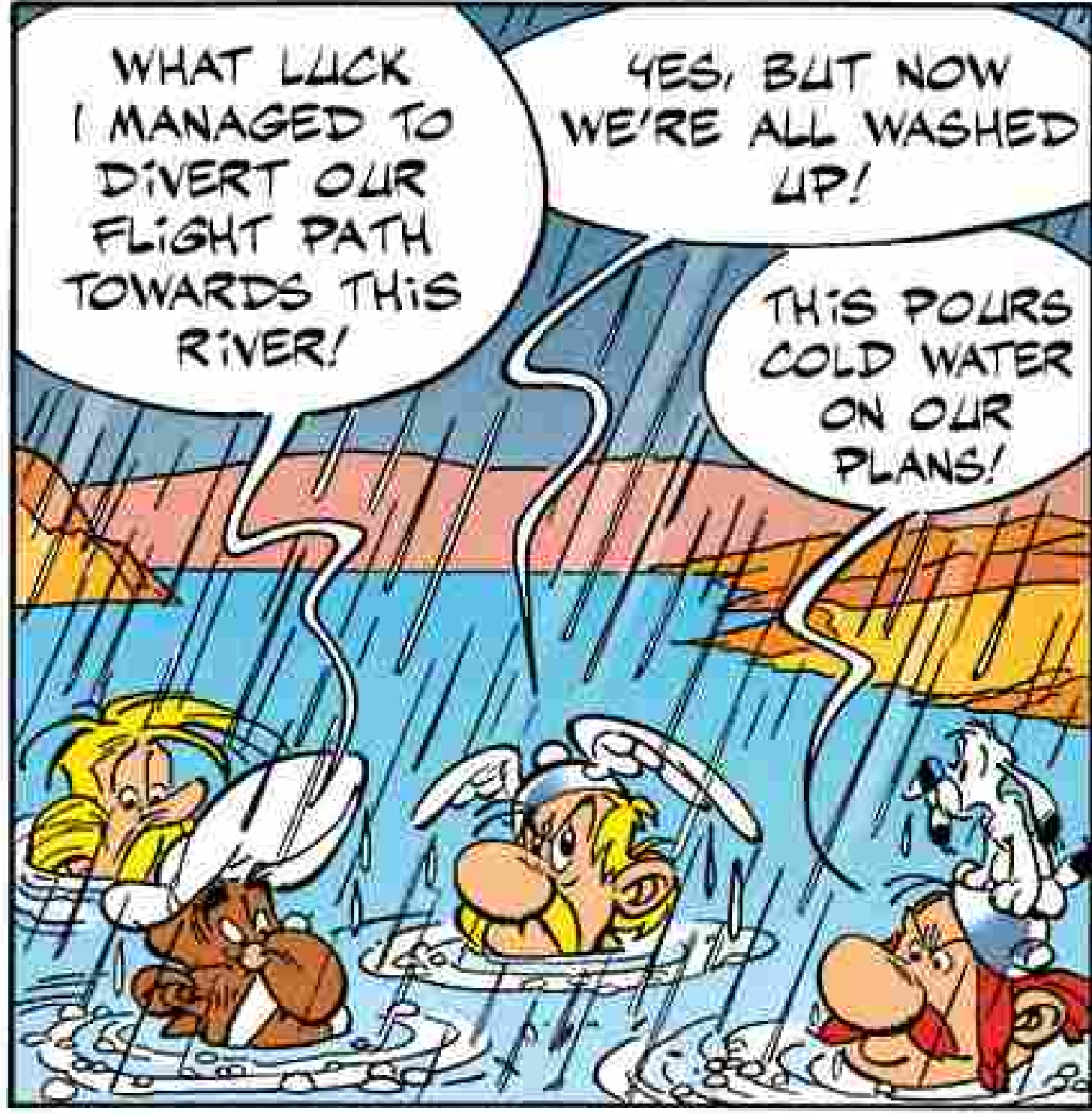
LET'S GET SHOT OF THIS LOT QUICK!!!

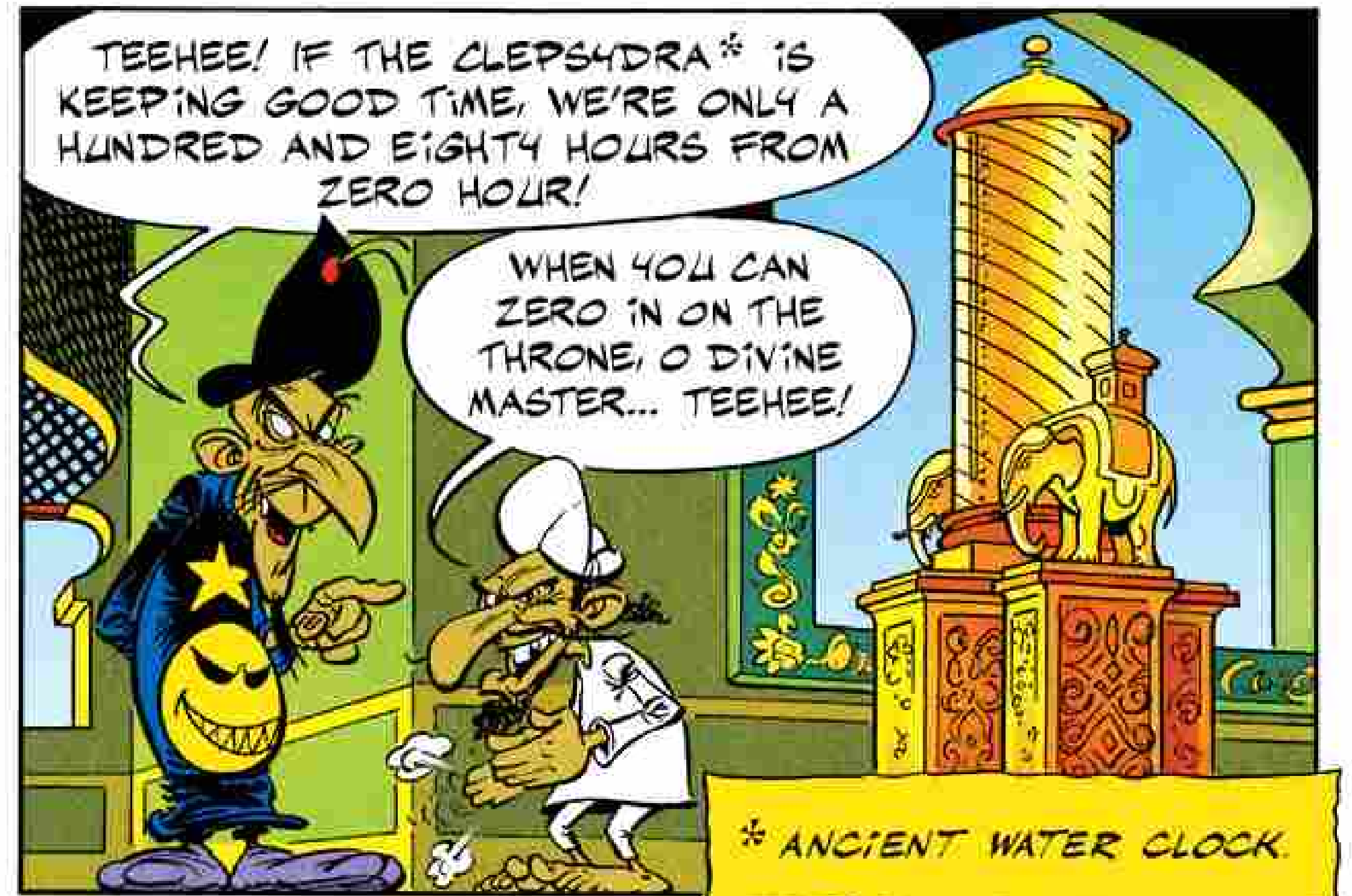
I DON'T LIKE IT A BIT!

OH, YOU SOON GET USED TO IT.

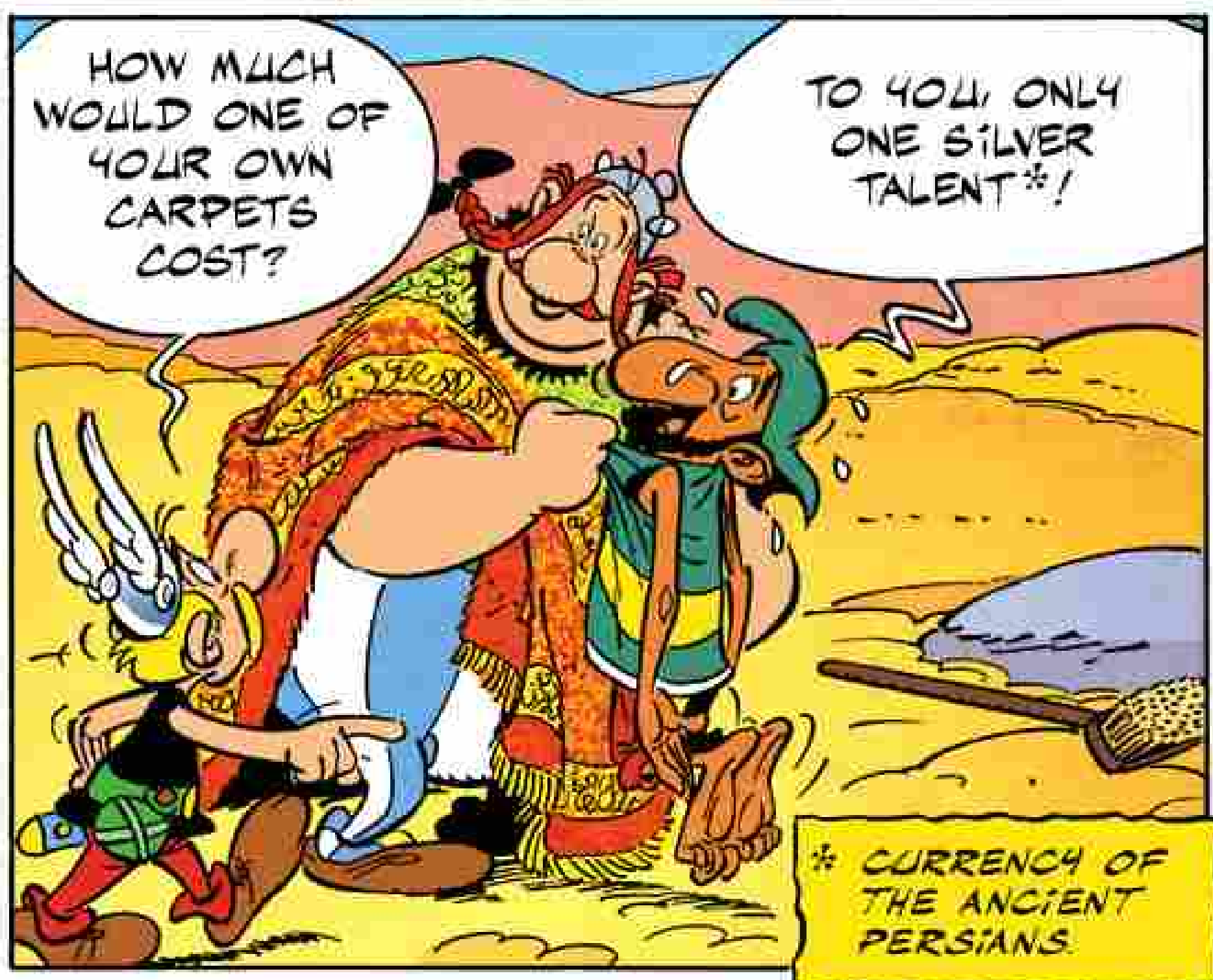
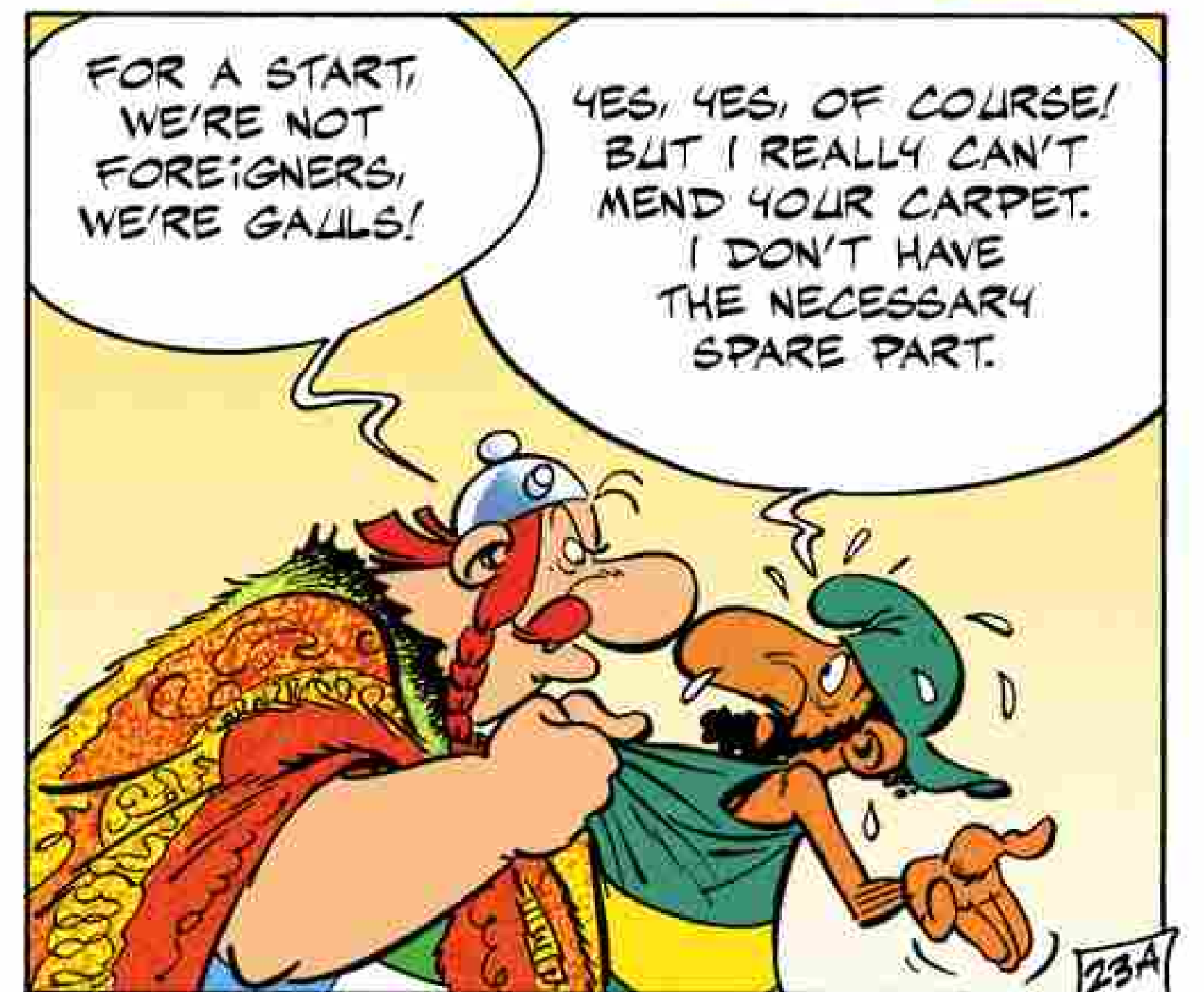
*PHOENICIAN PORT: SEE ASTERIX AND THE BLACK GOLD





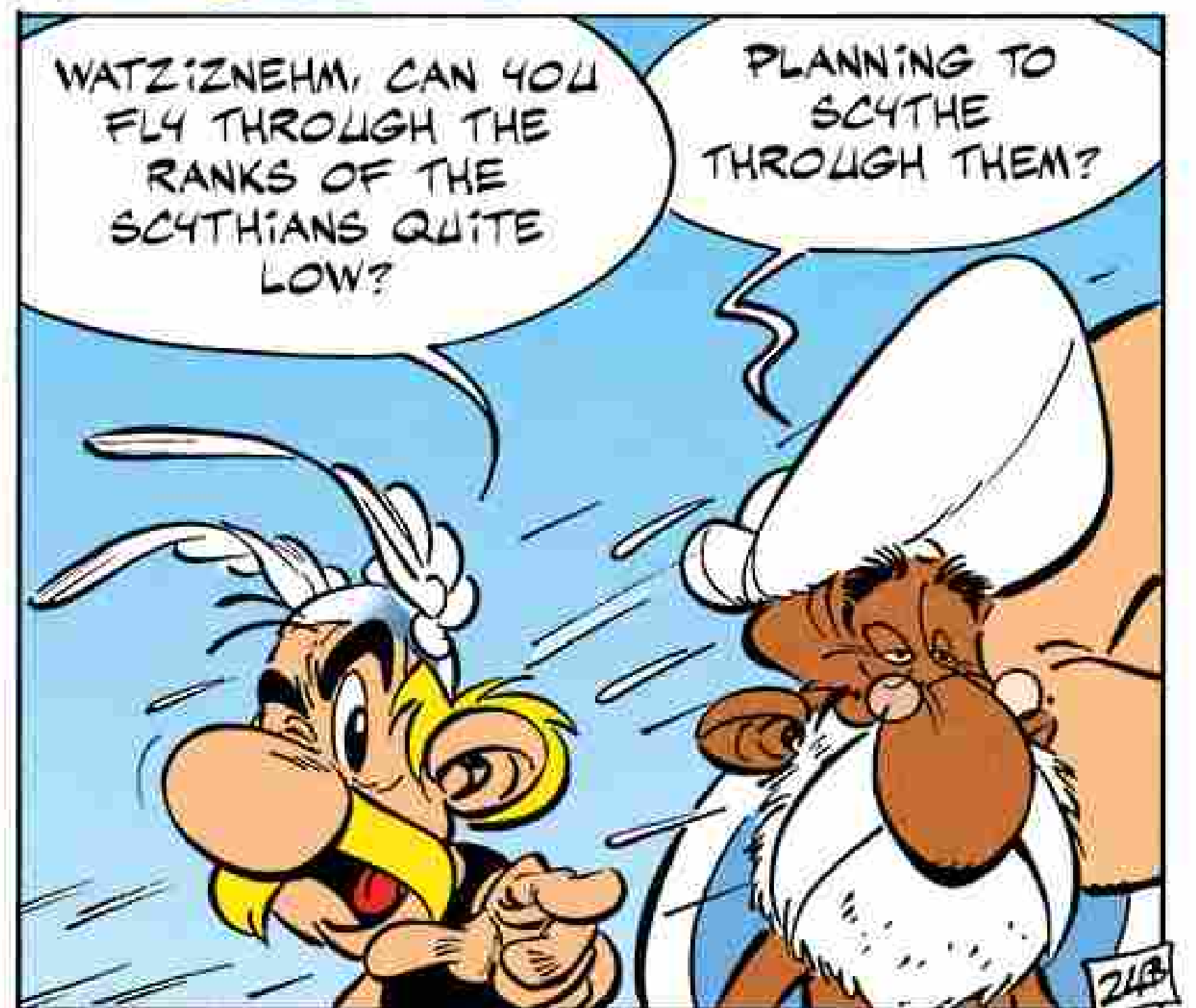
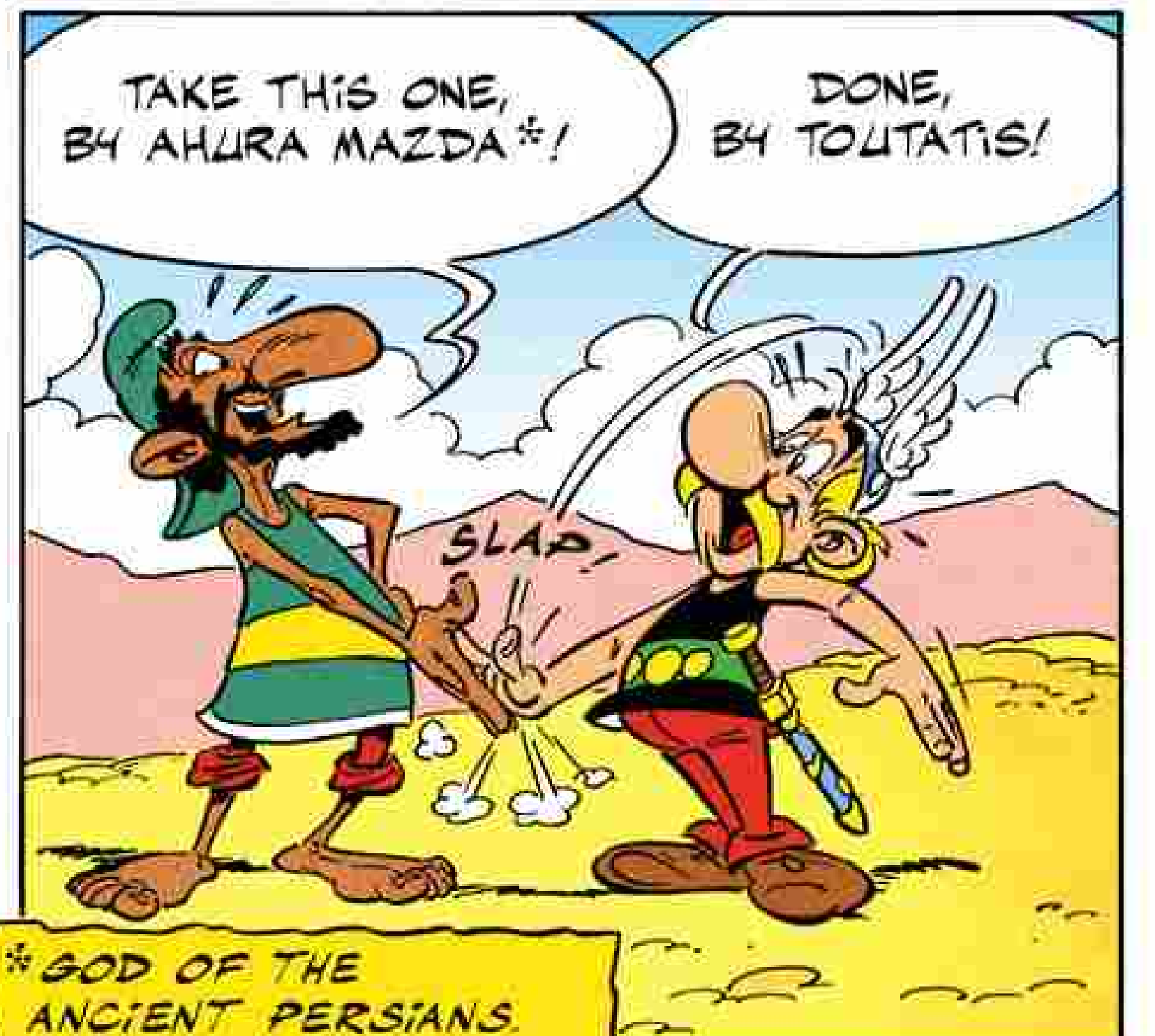
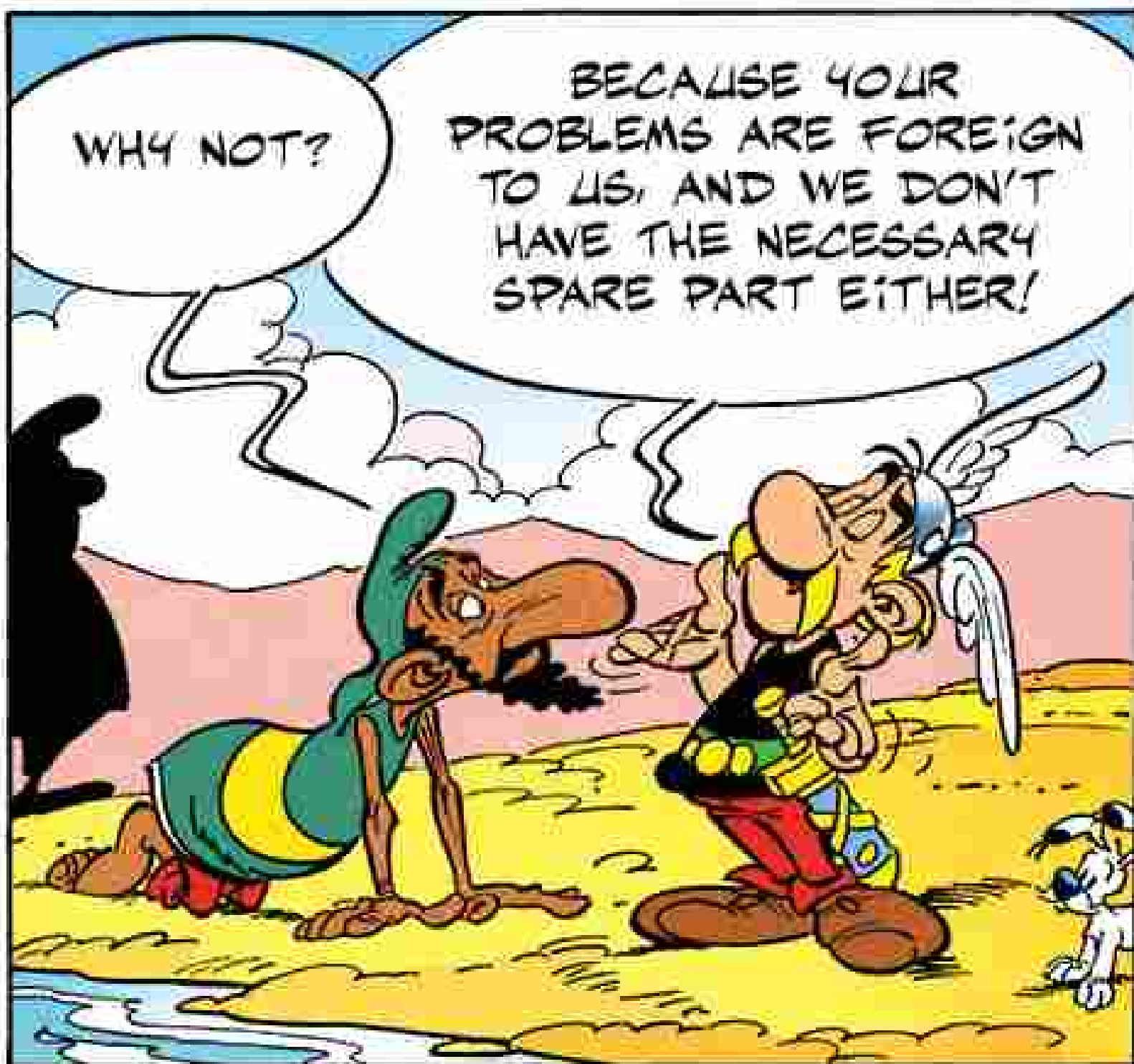


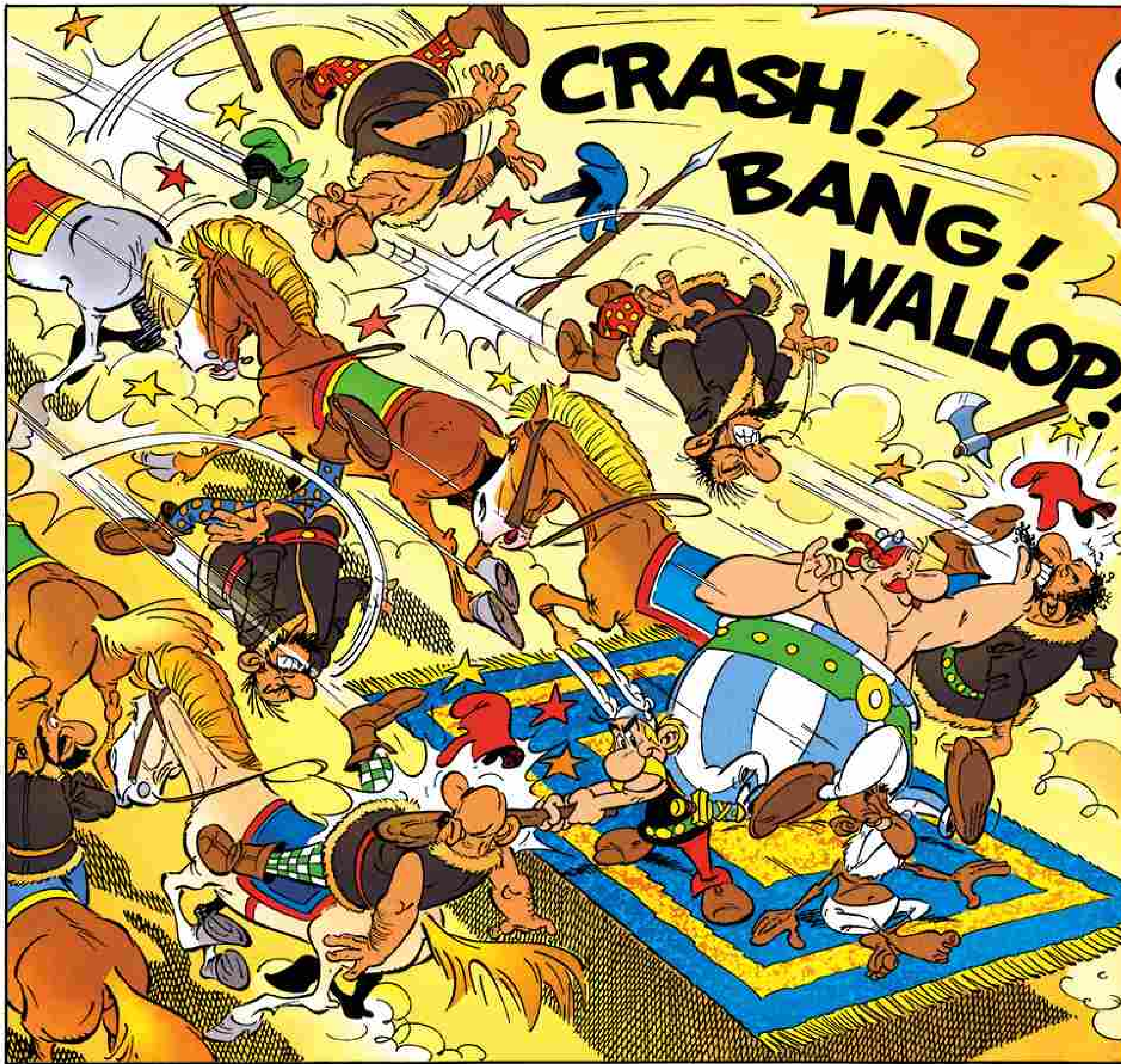
MEANWHILE...



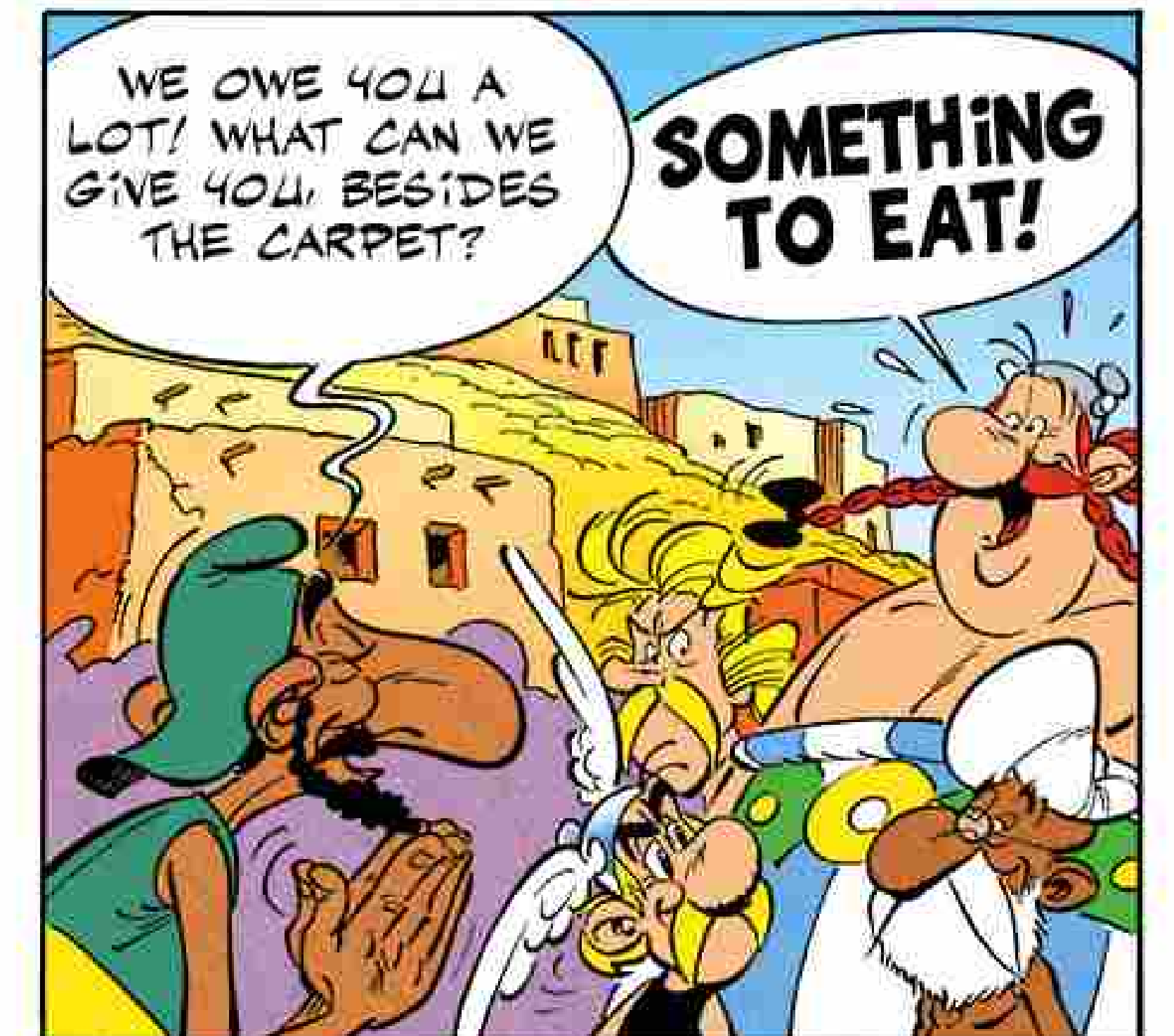


**THE PIRATES WILL
STEAL OUR CARPETS
AND BURN OUR
HOUSES DOWN
AGAIN!!!**



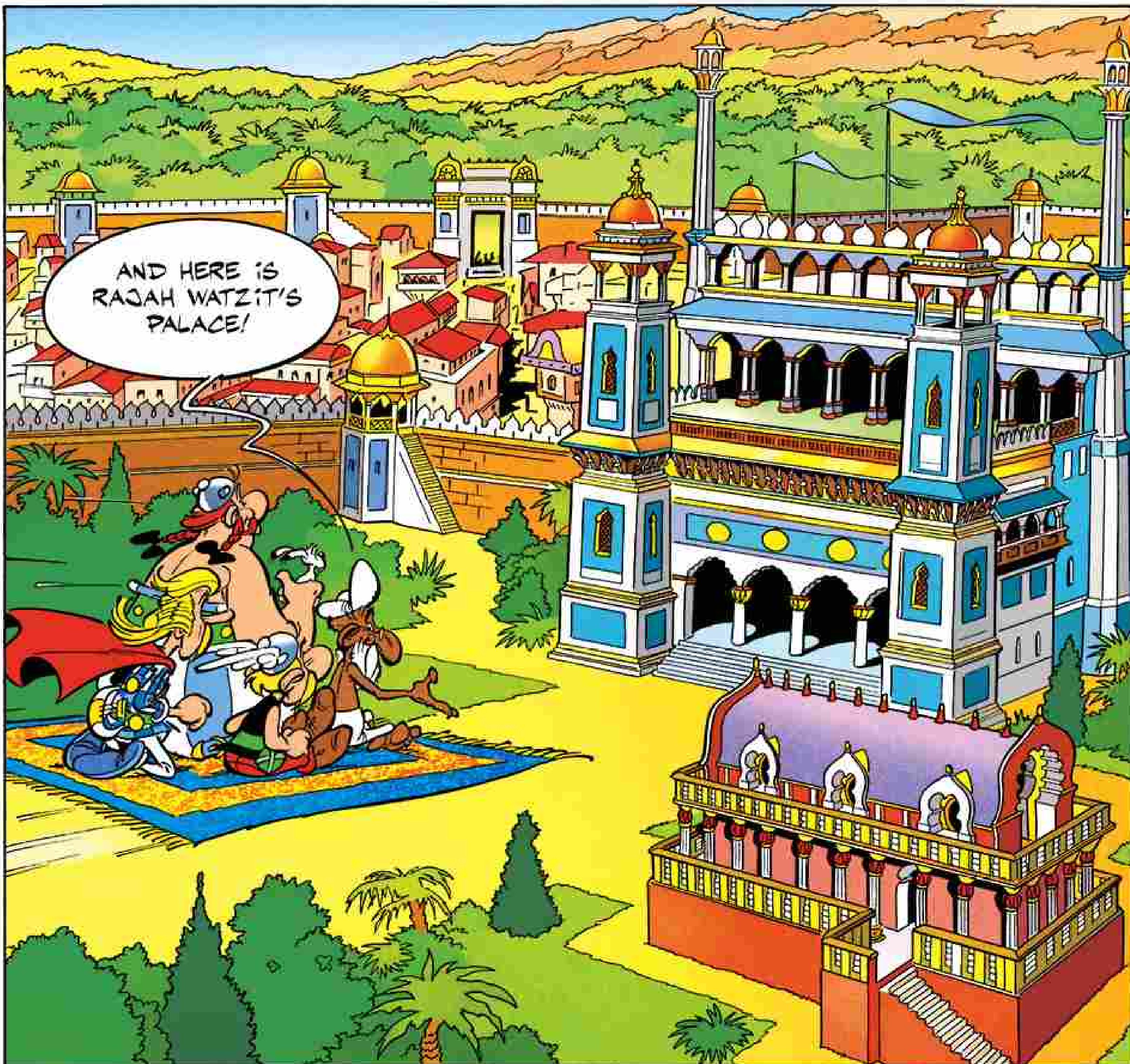
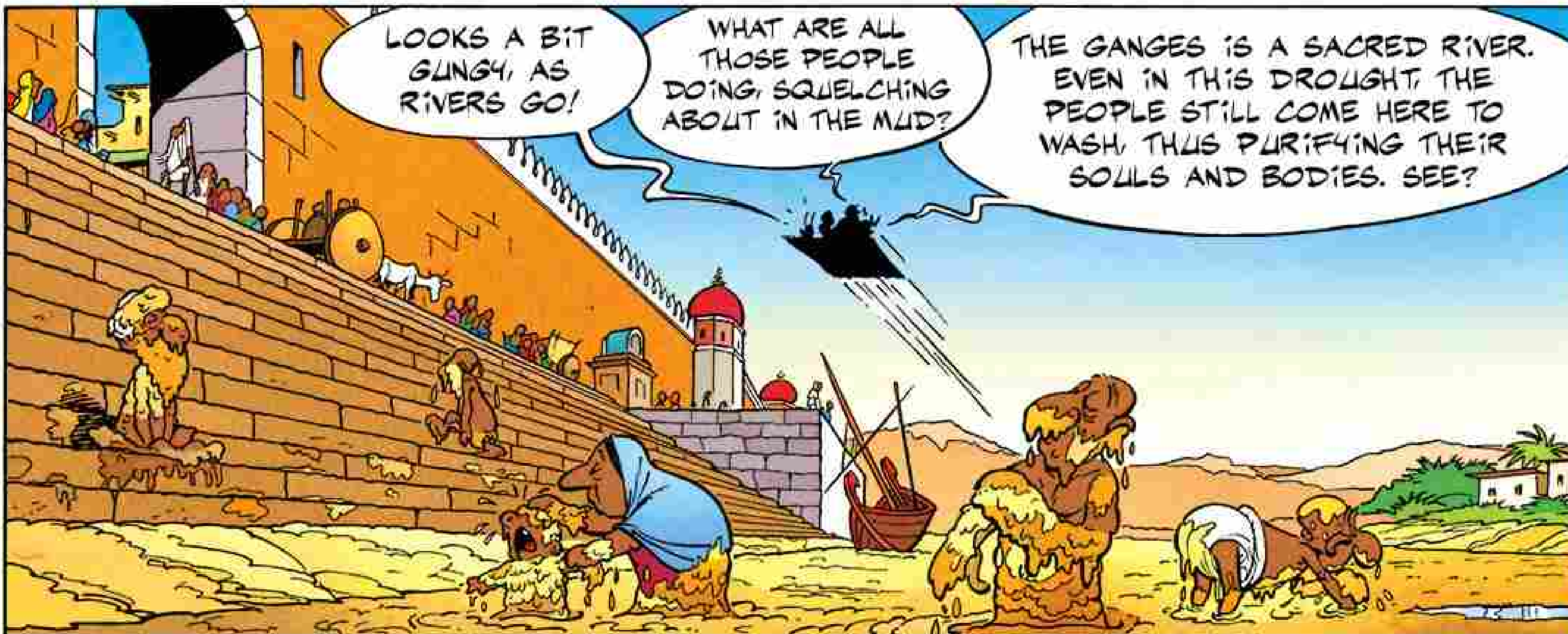
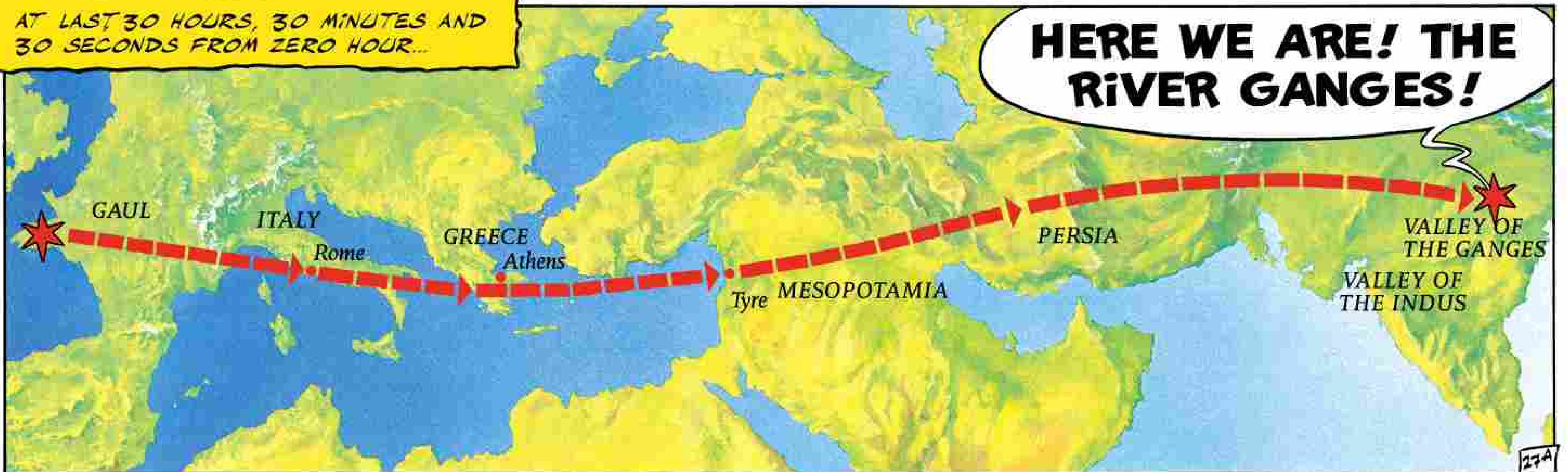


BY THE GREAT GODDESS! WE MUST FLY FROM THESE DEMONS OF THE SKY!

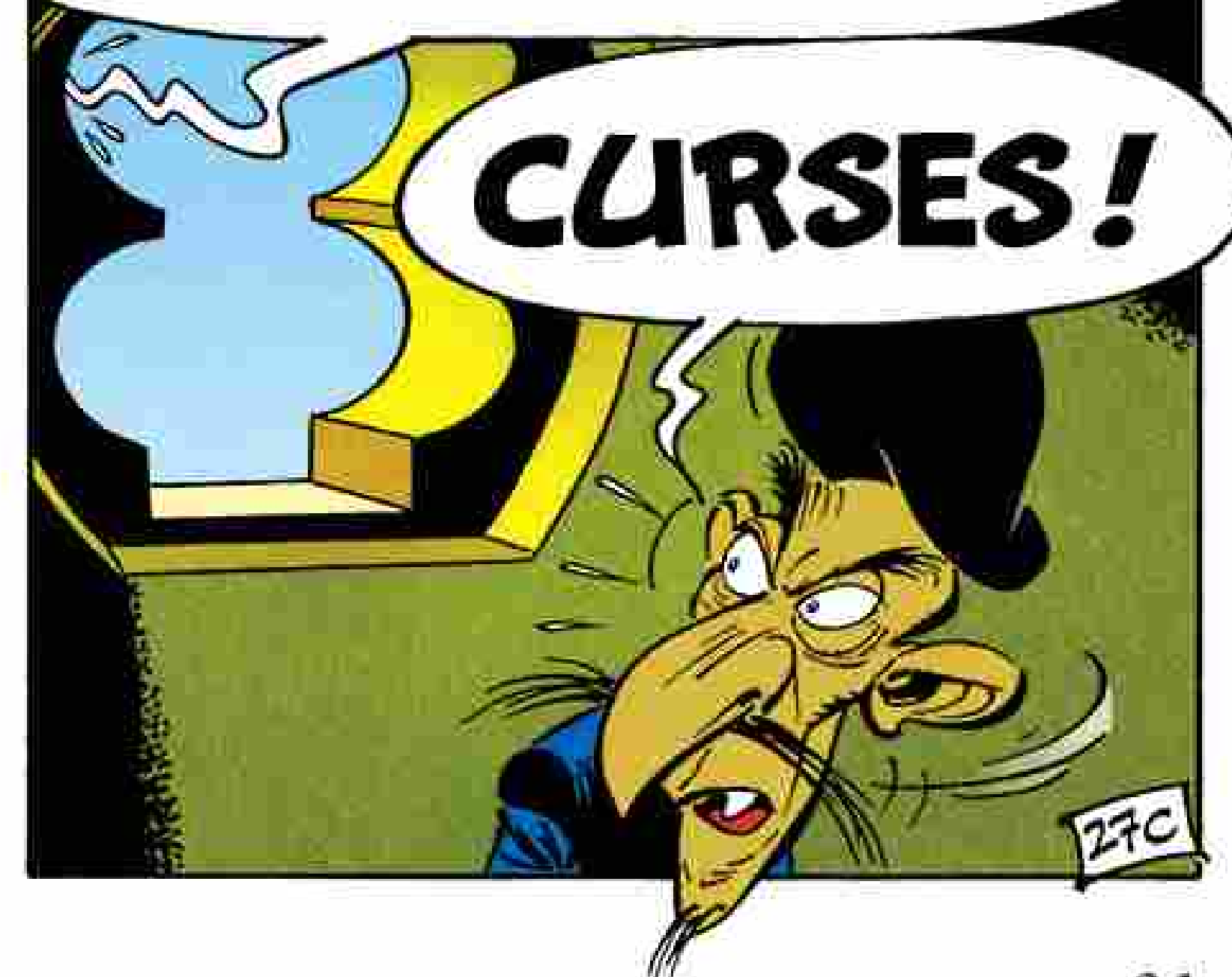


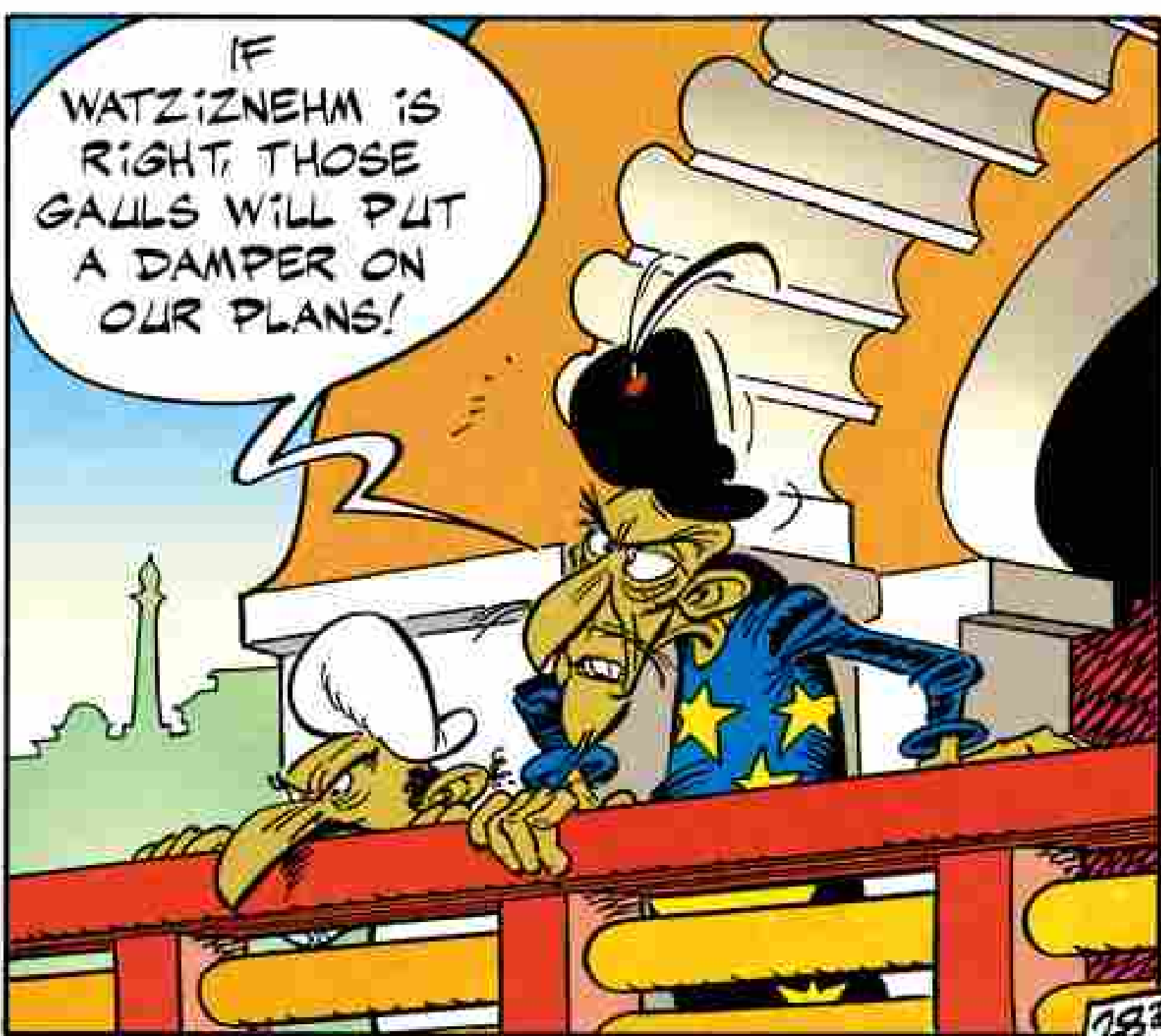
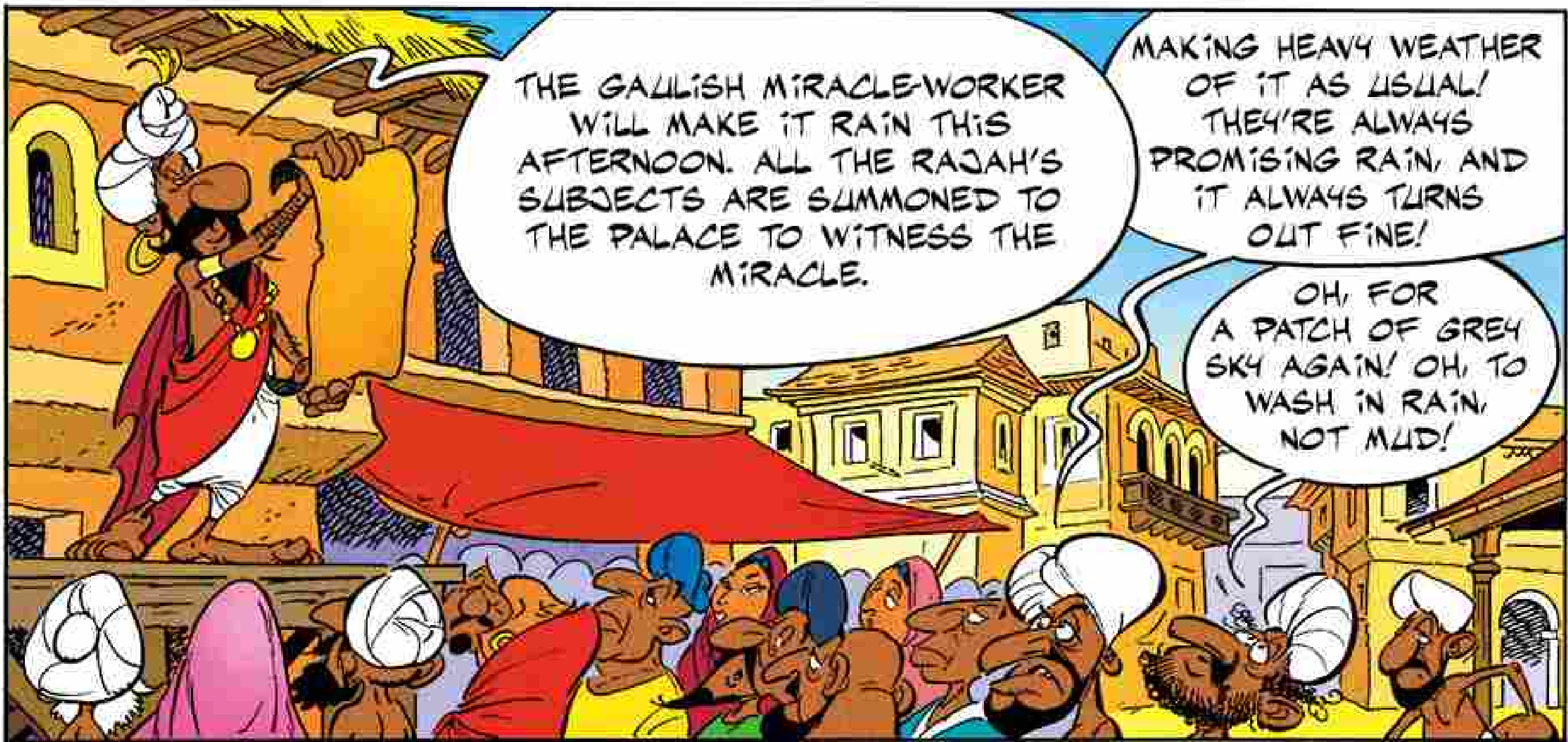
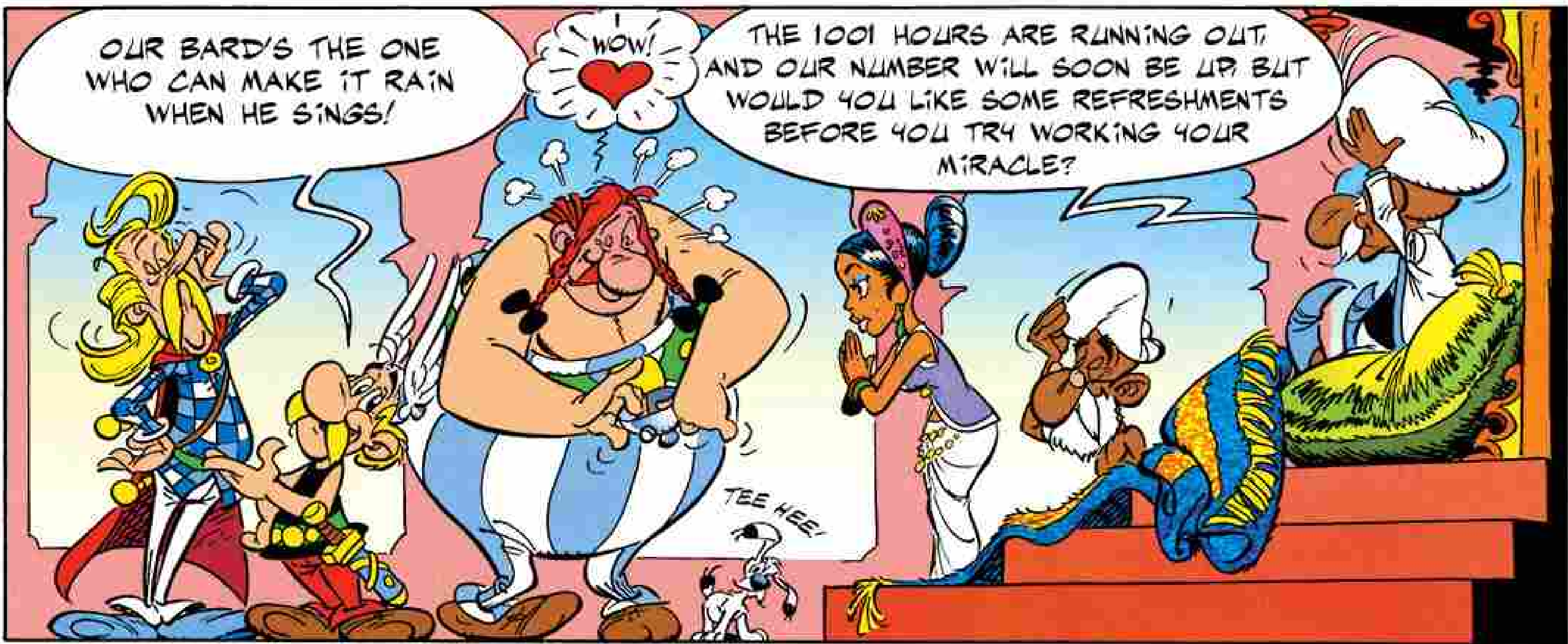
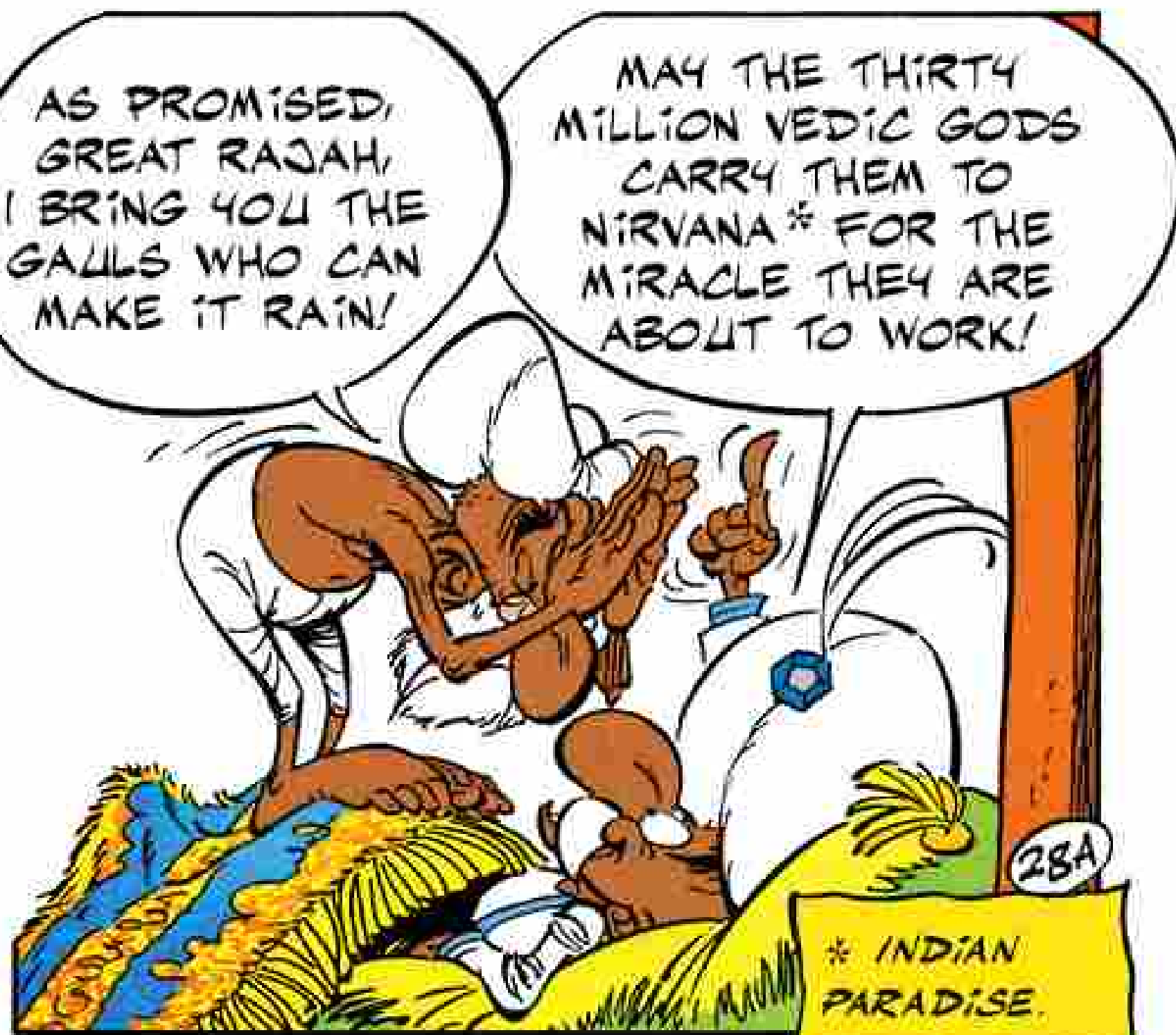
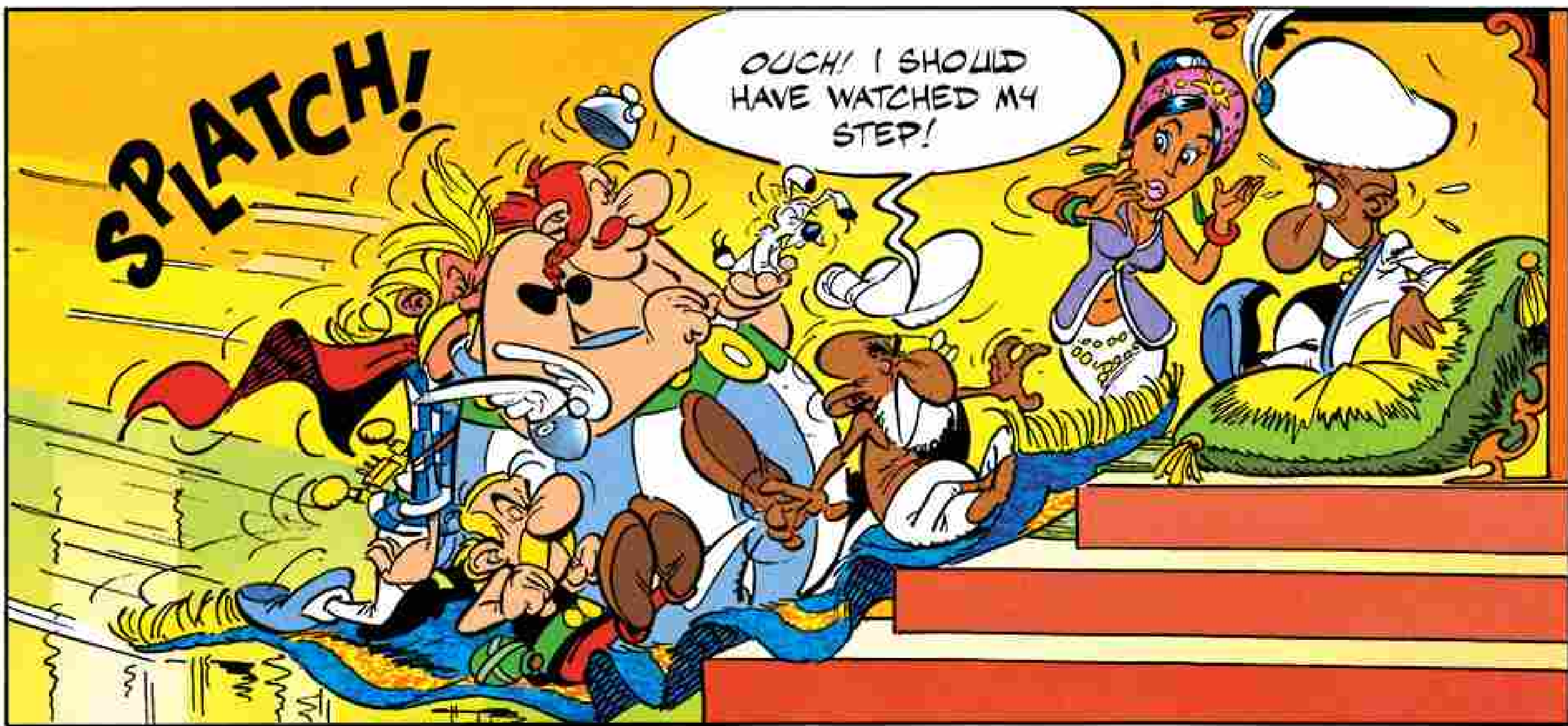
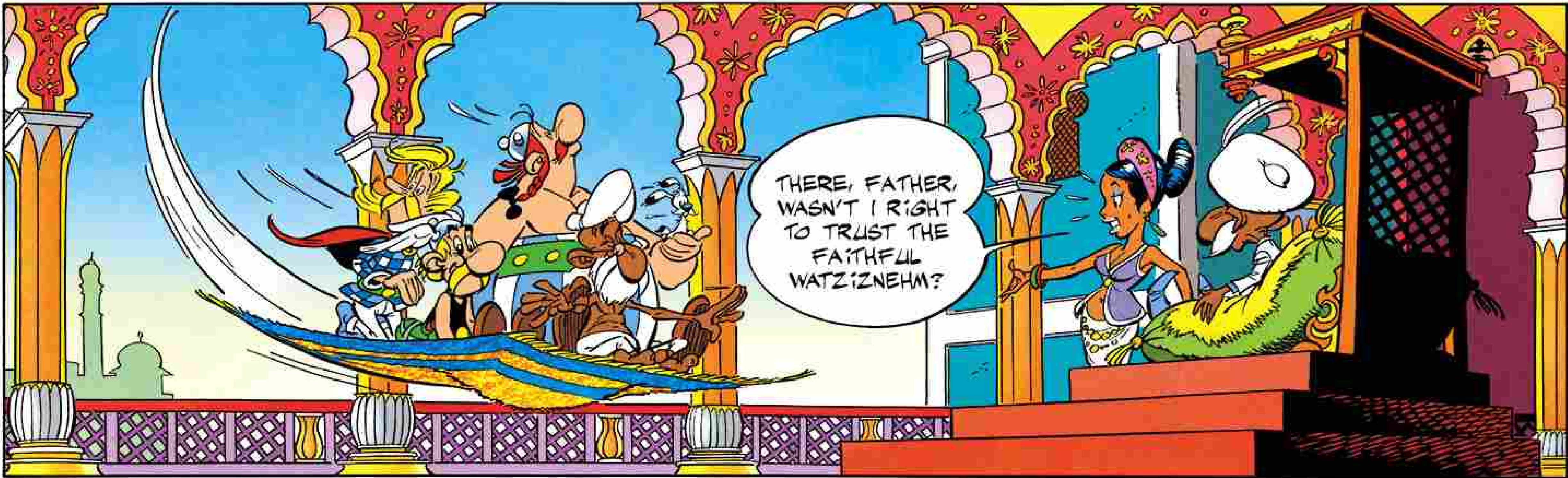
AT LAST 30 HOURS, 30 MINUTES AND 30 SECONDS FROM ZERO HOUR...

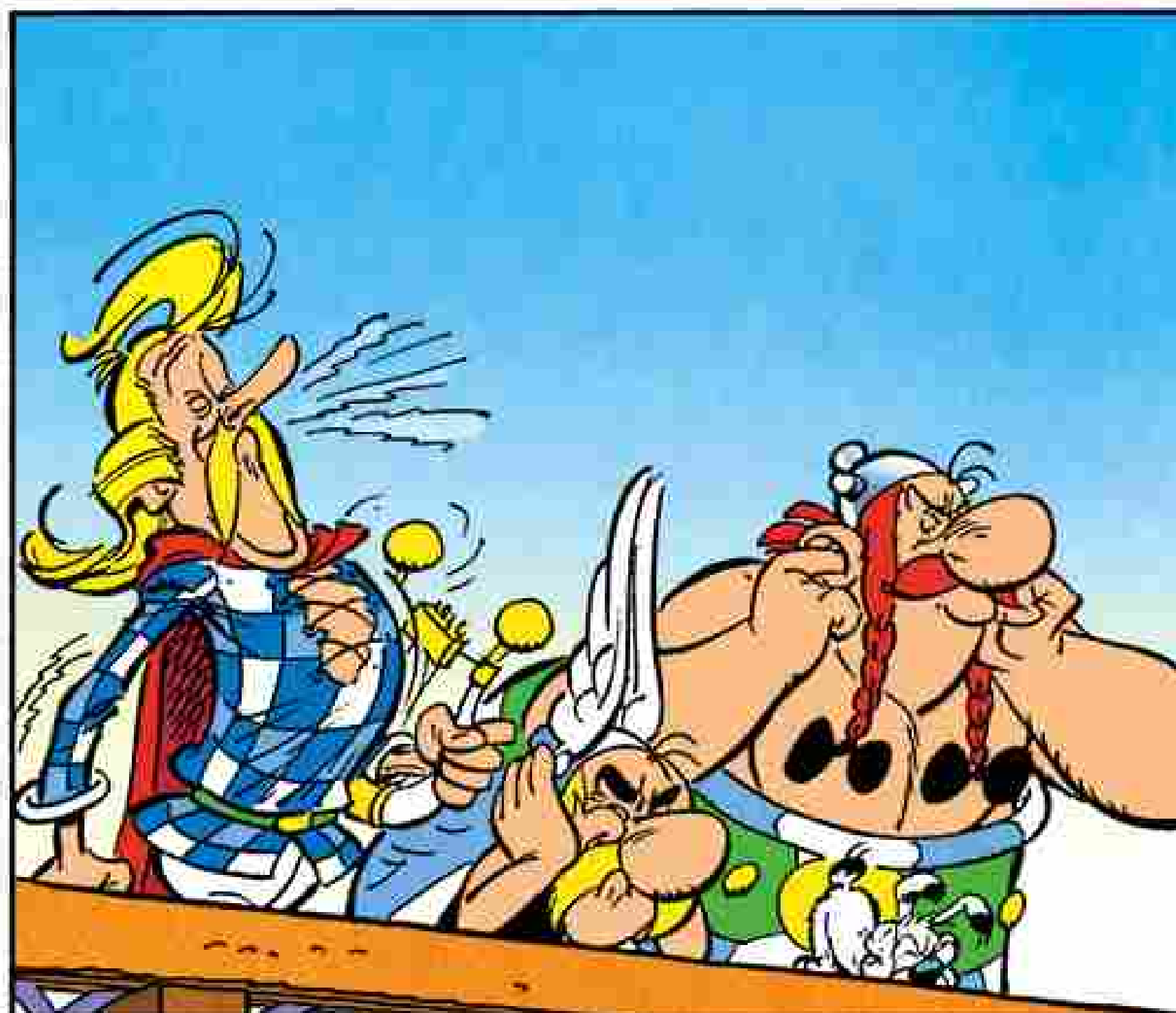
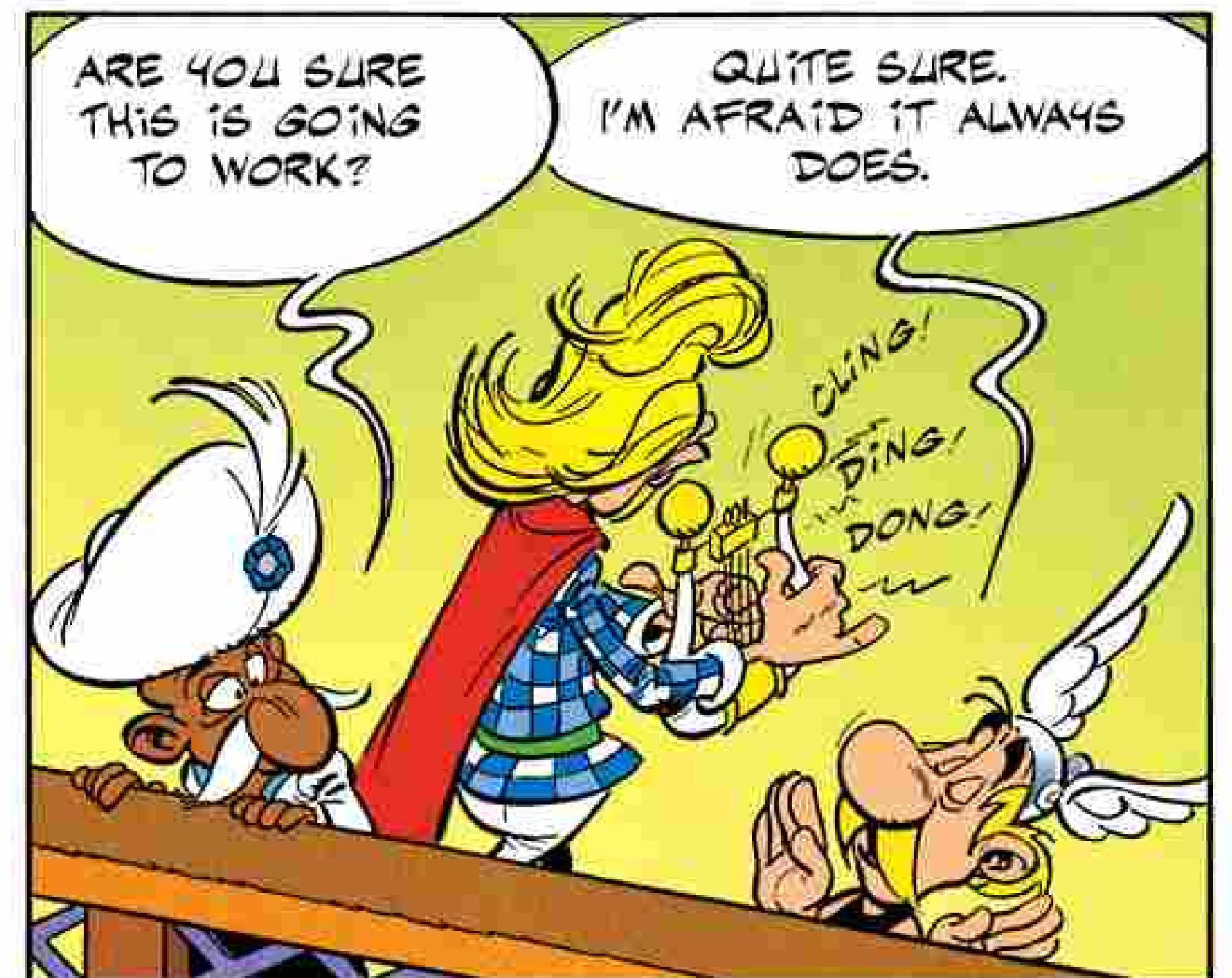
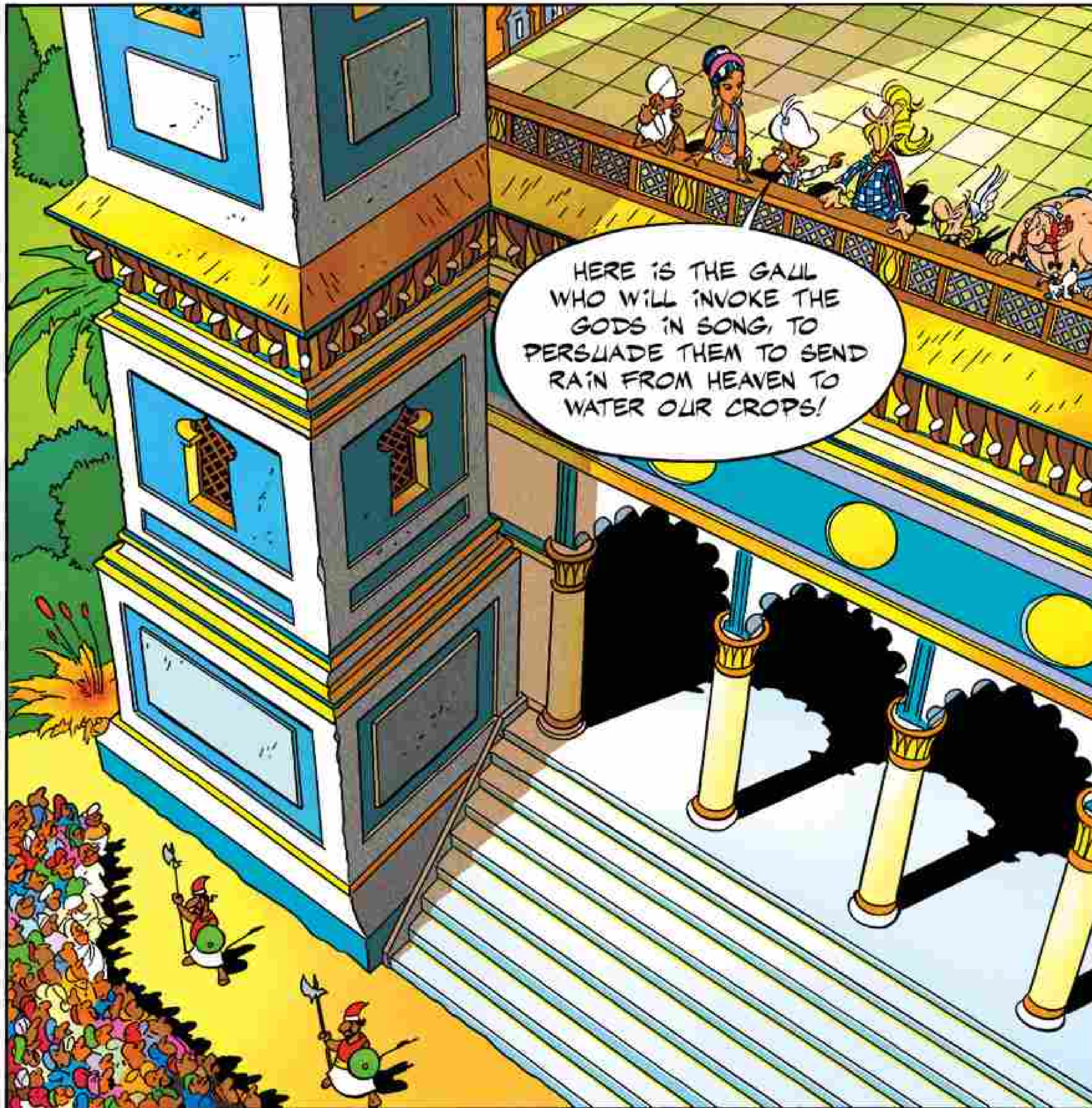
HERE WE ARE! THE RIVER GANGES!

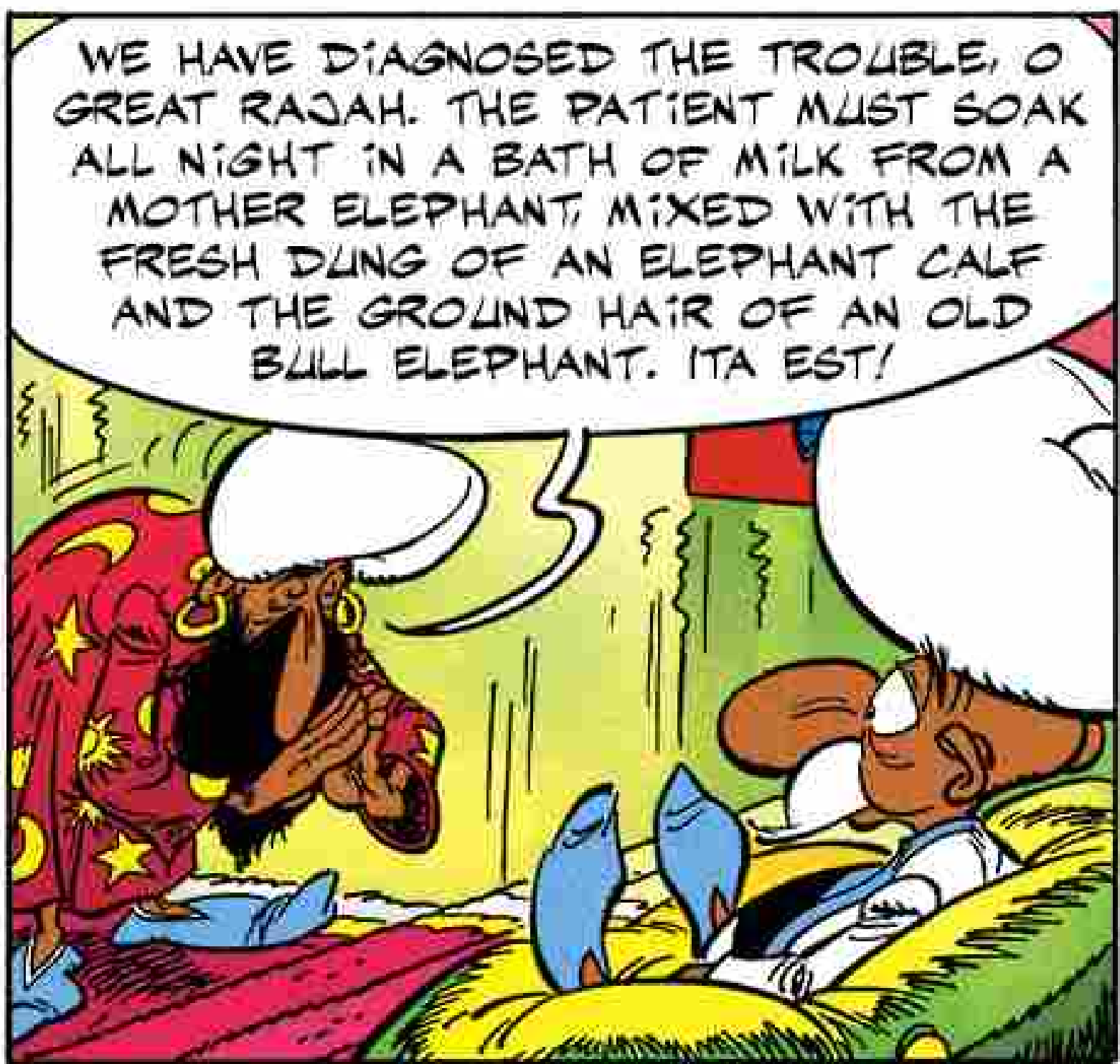
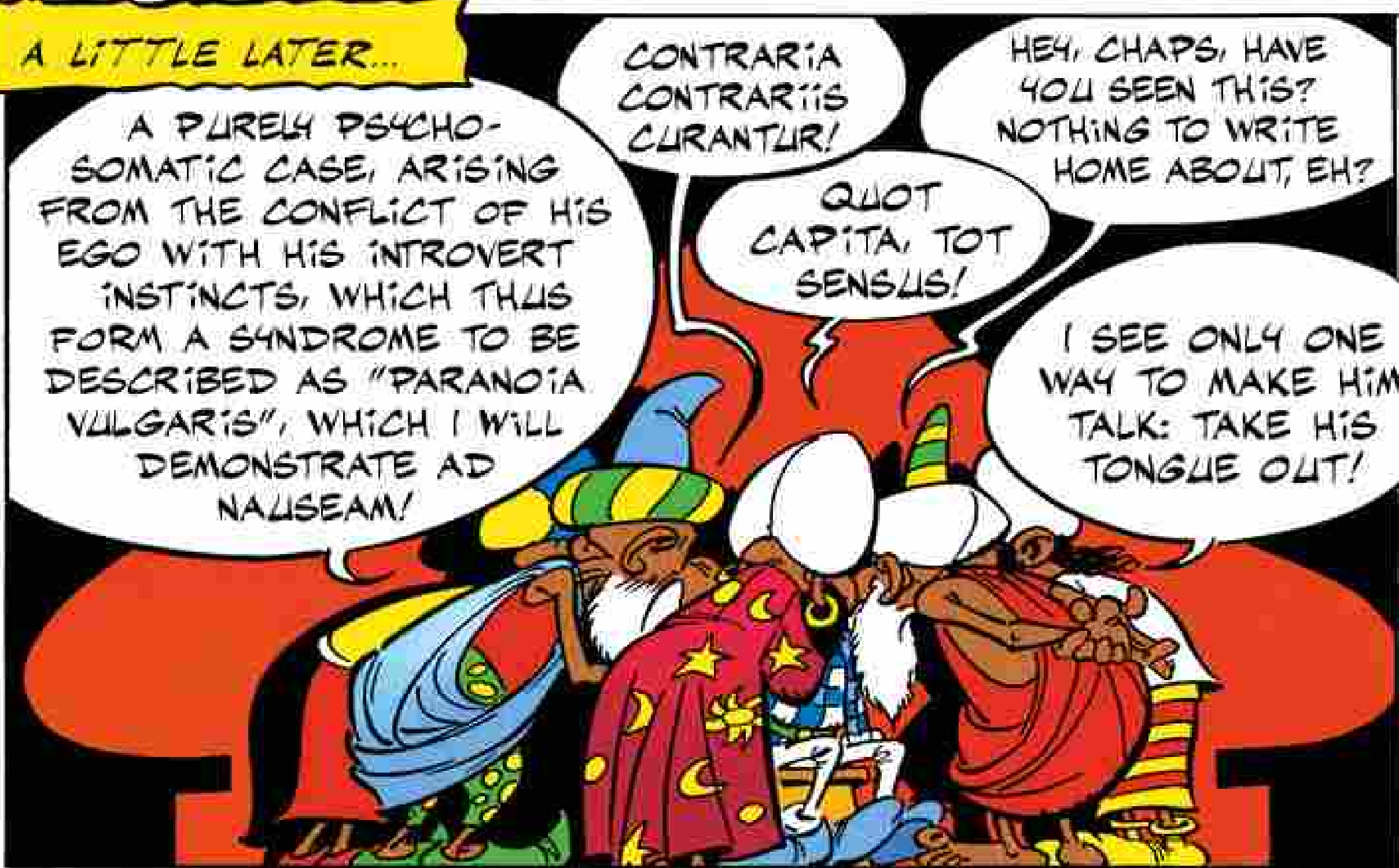
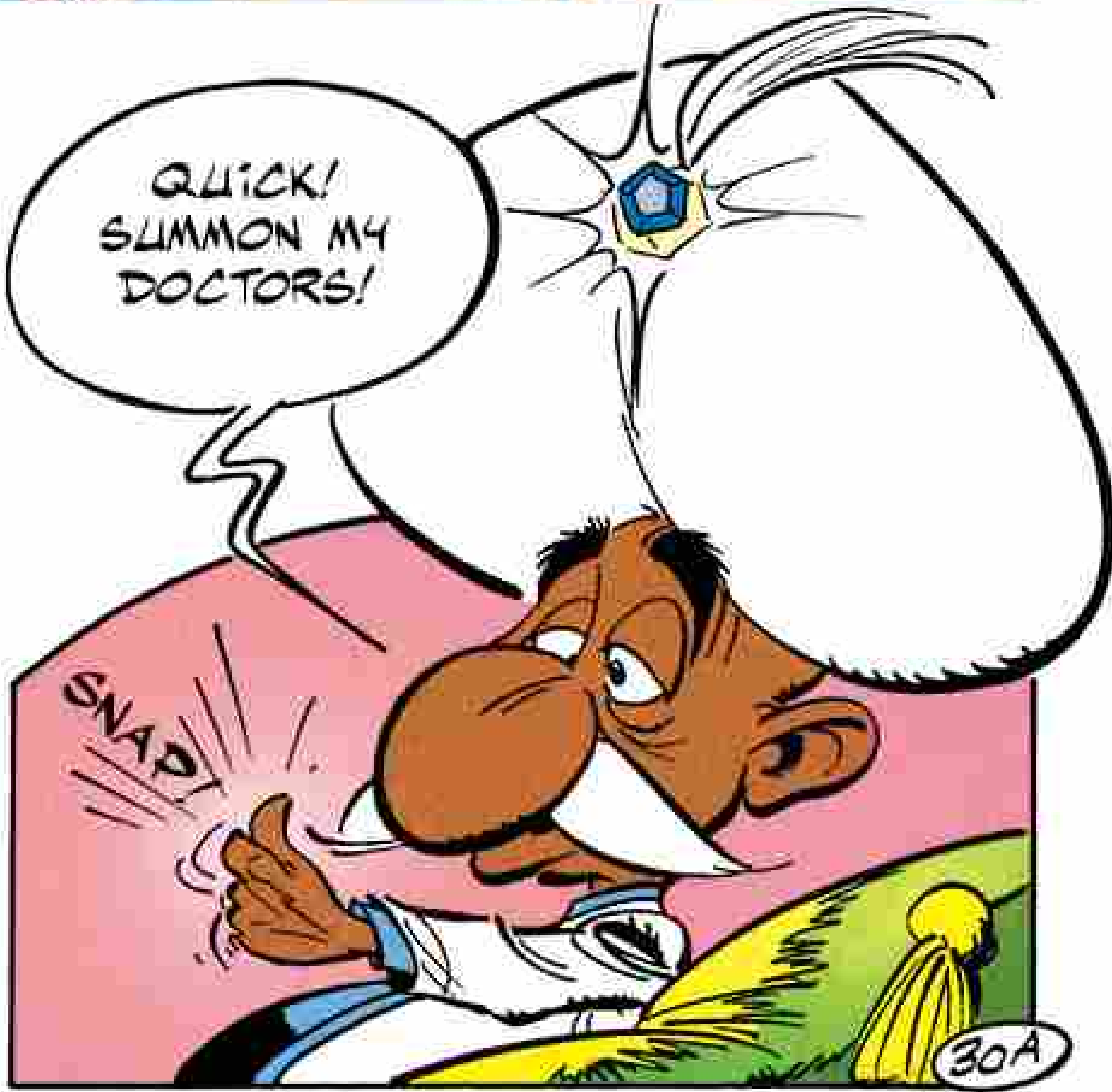
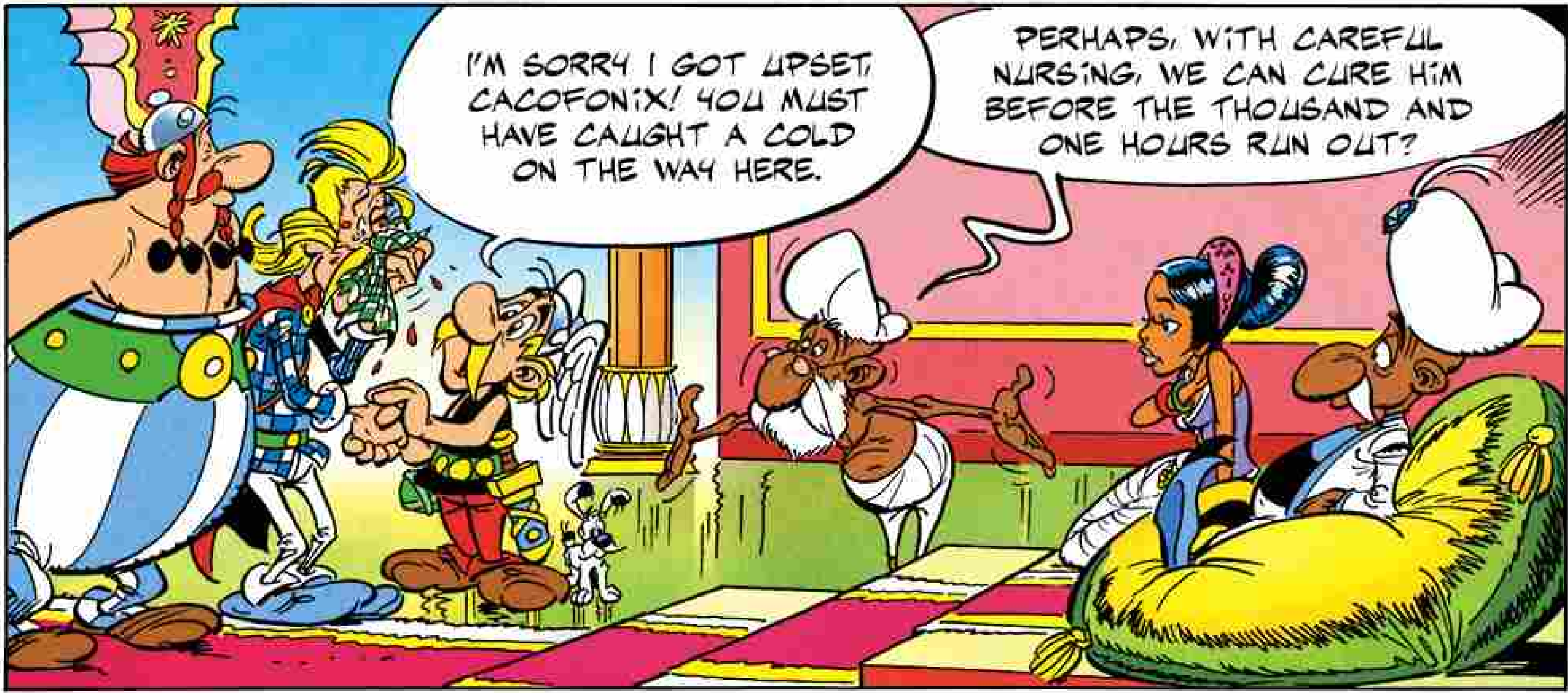
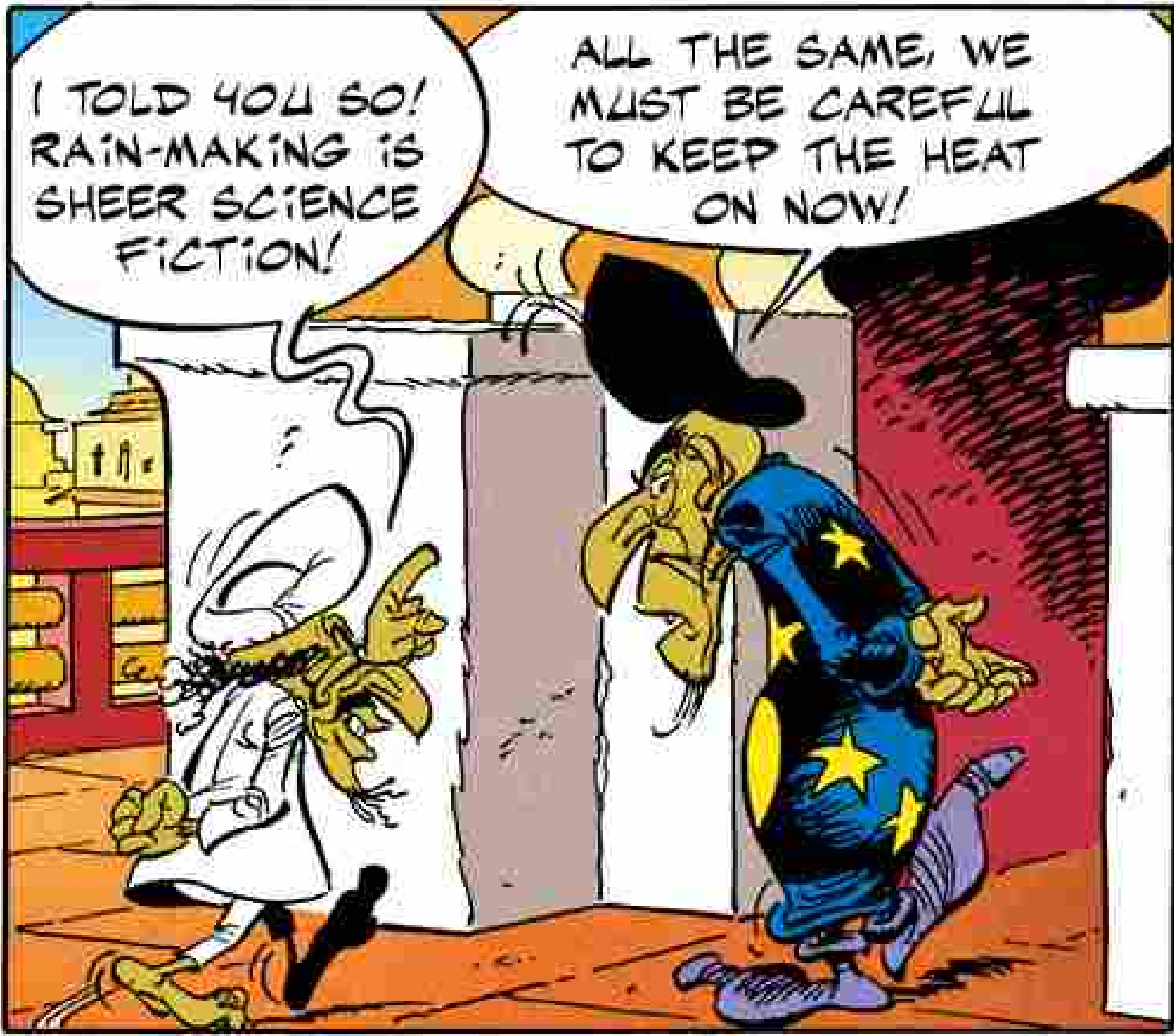
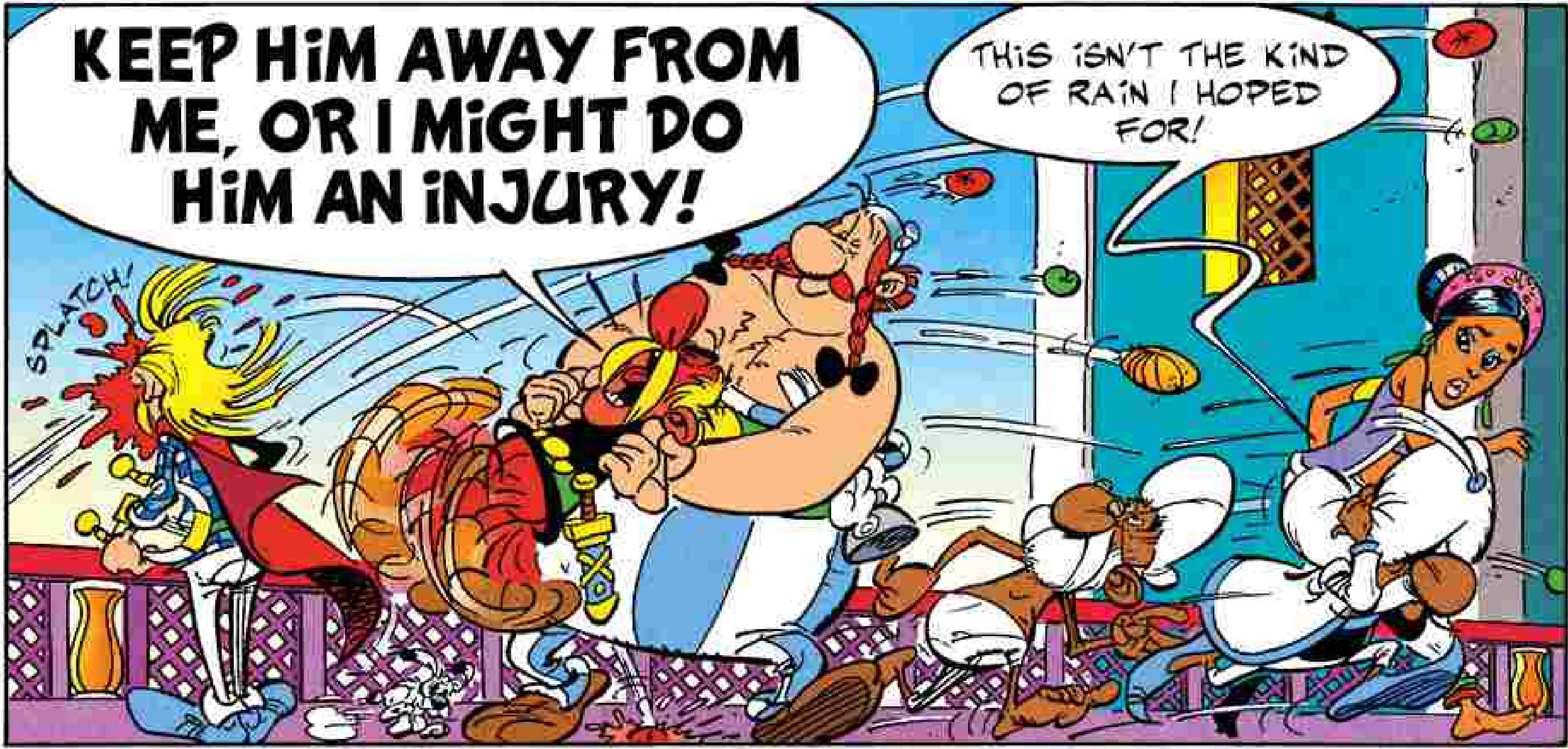


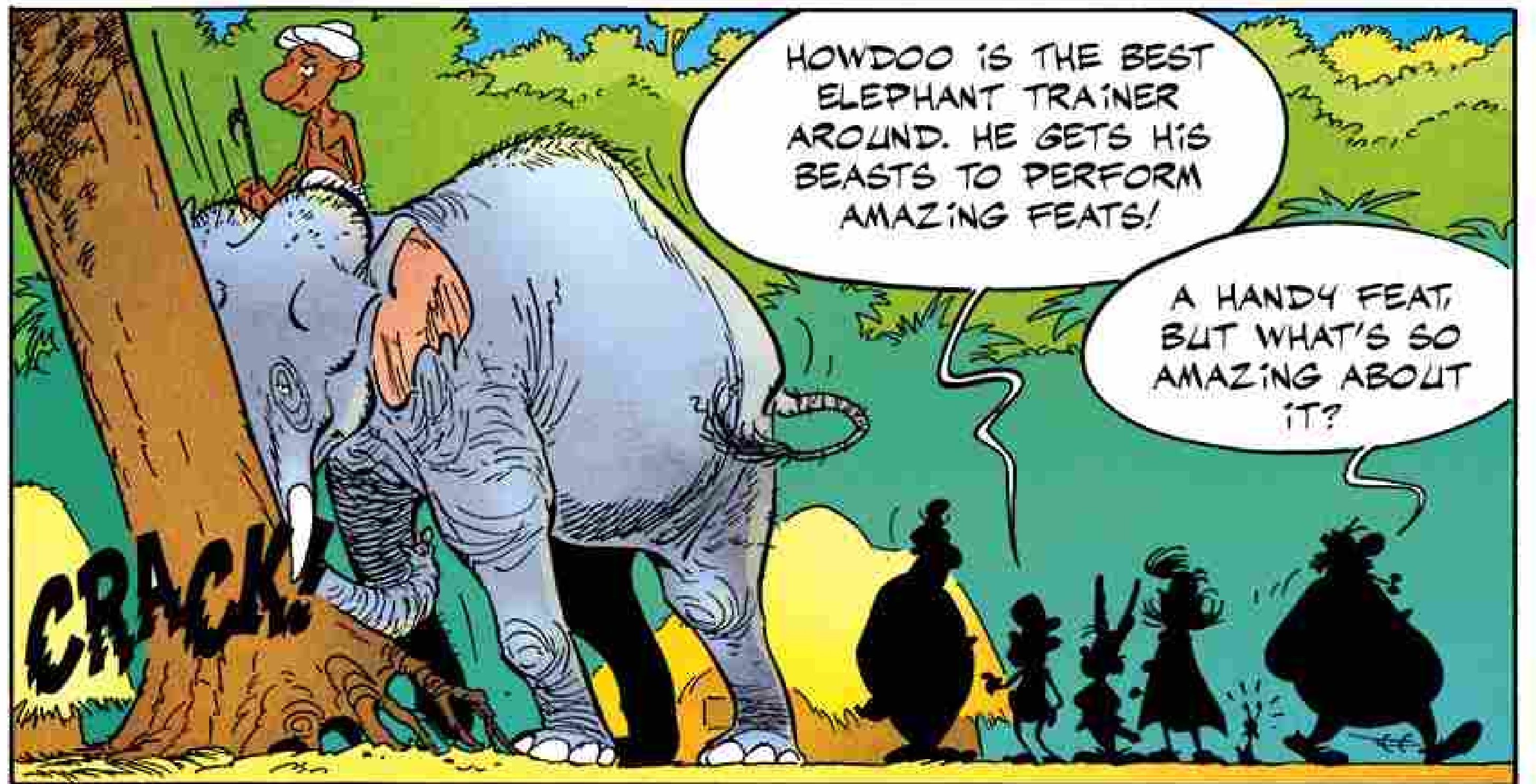
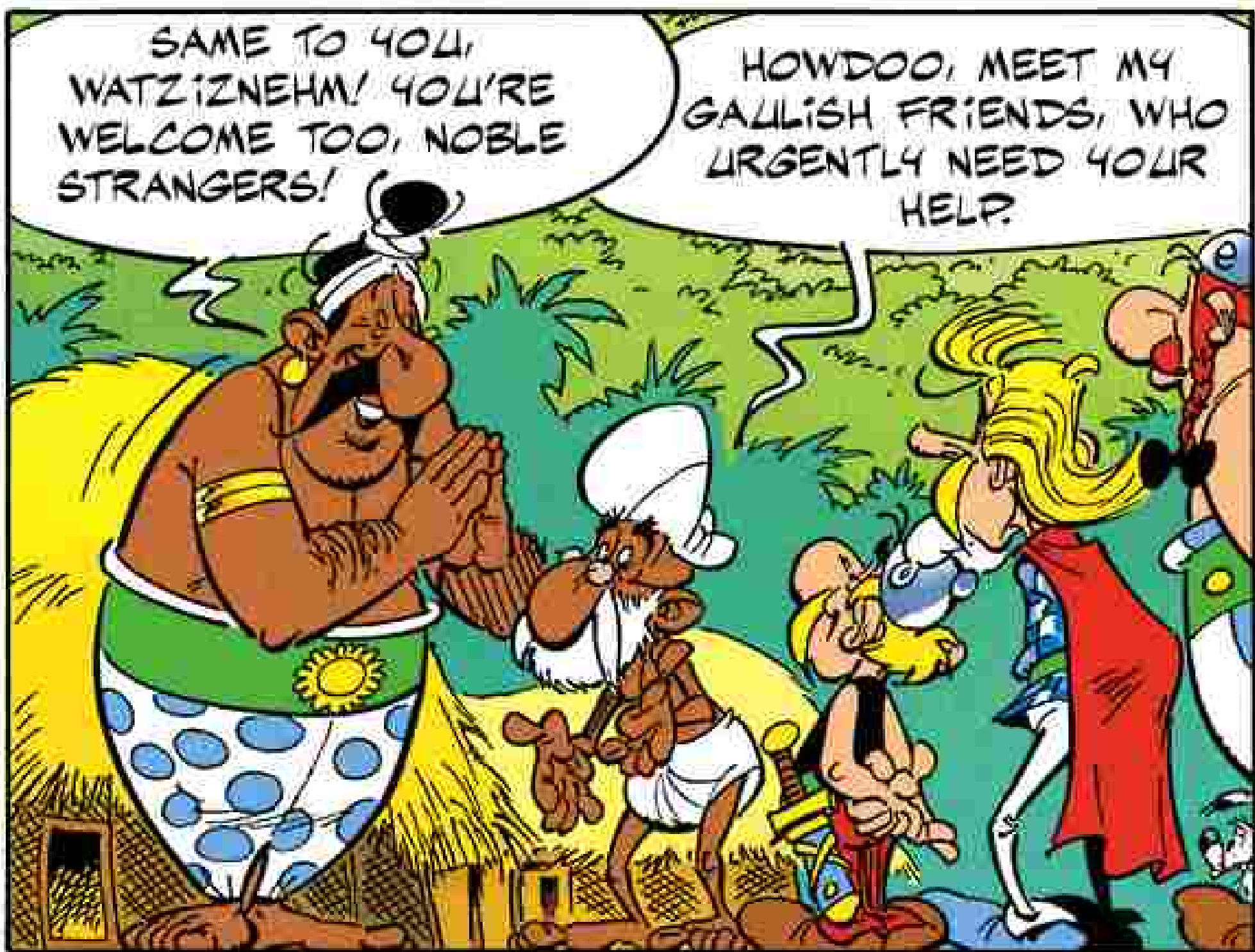
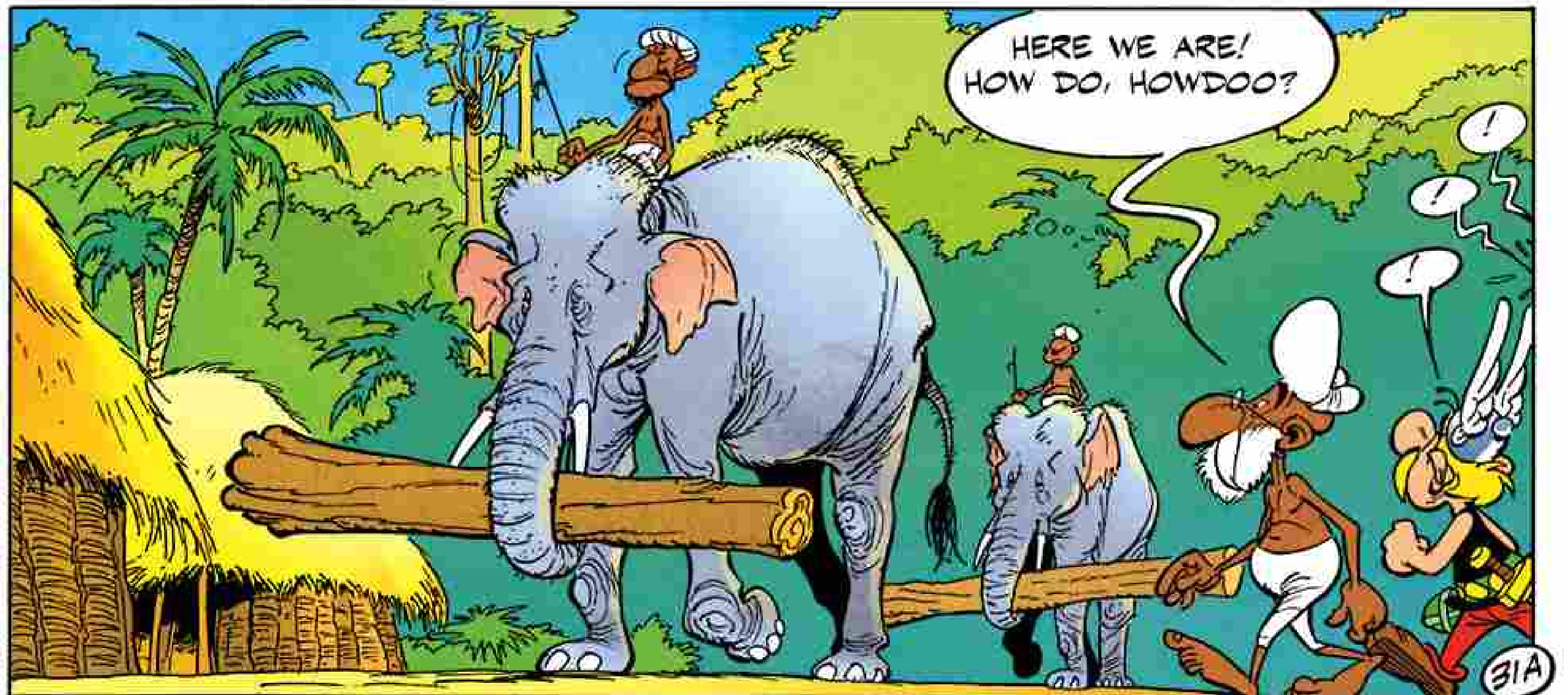
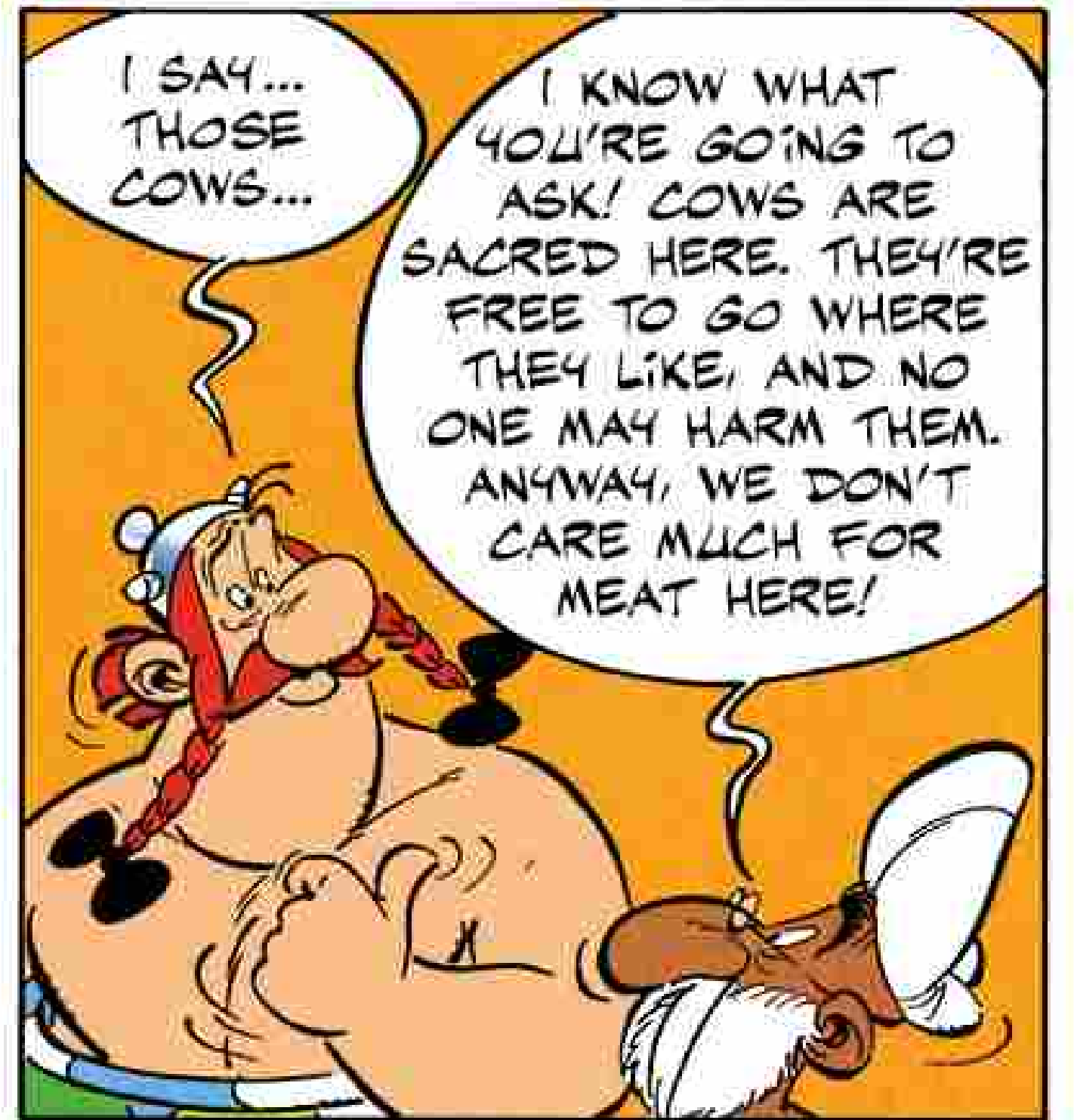
HE'S GOT THE GAULS ON BOARD!!! IS THIS OUR LUCKY BREAK?

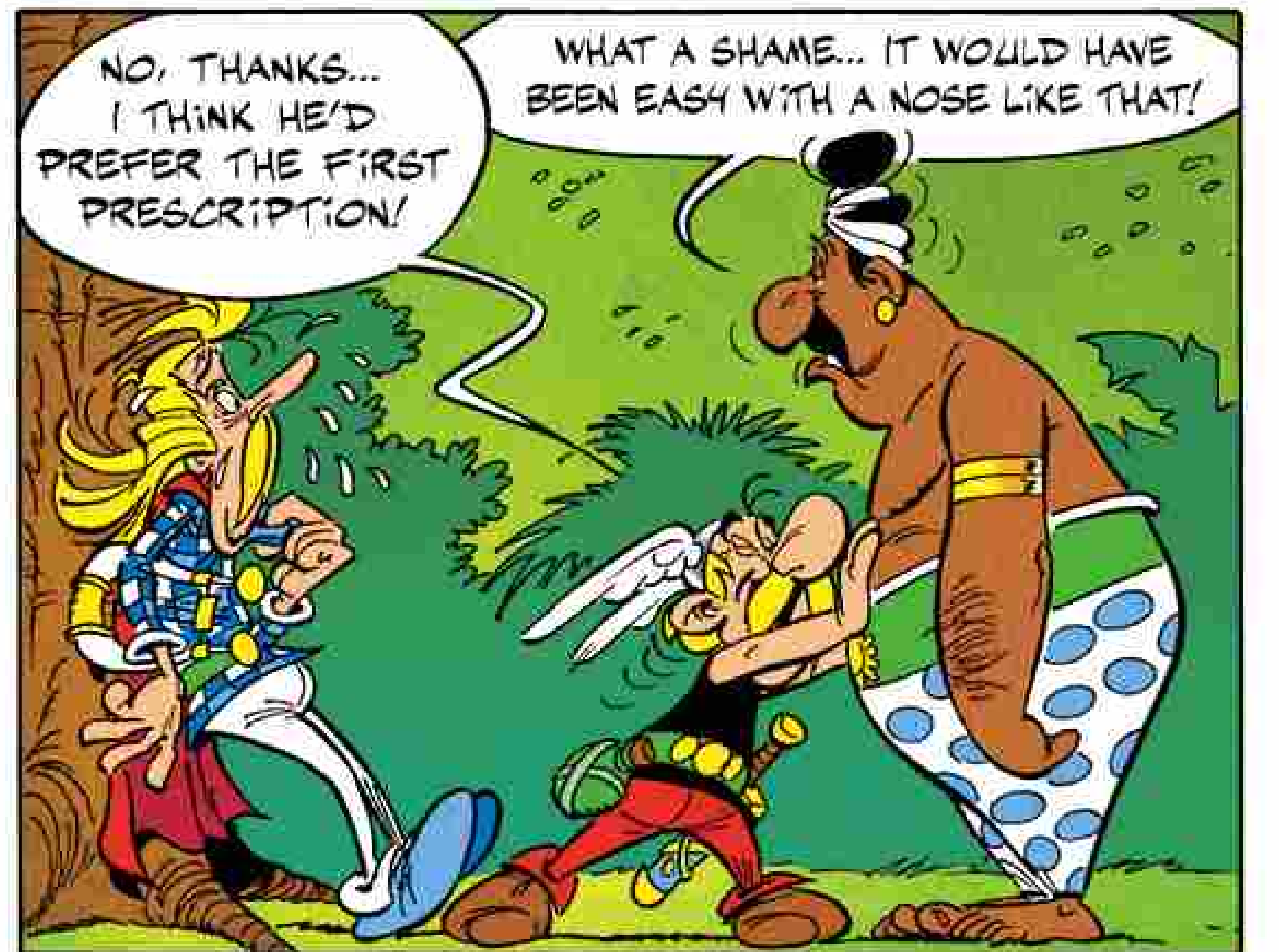
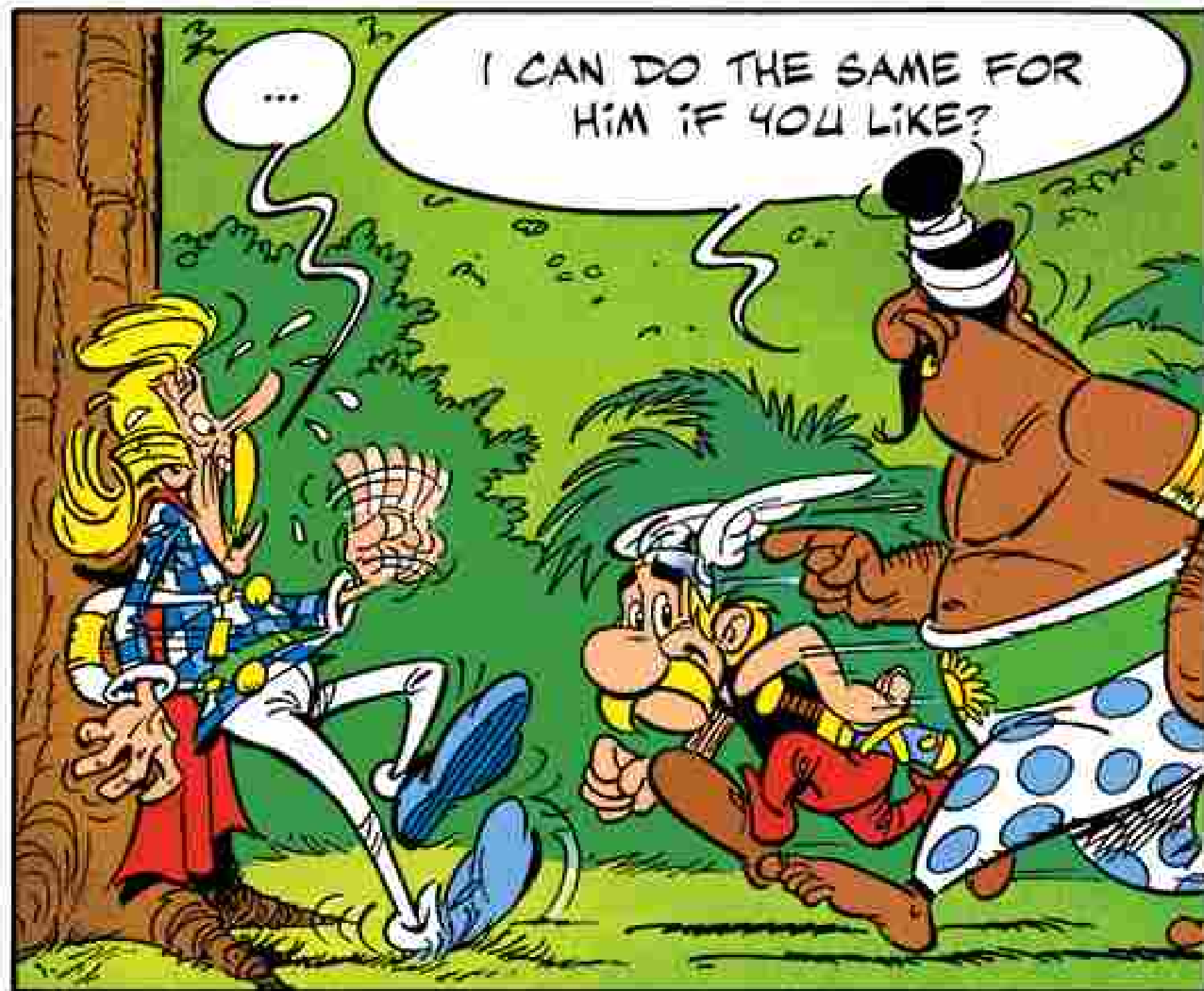
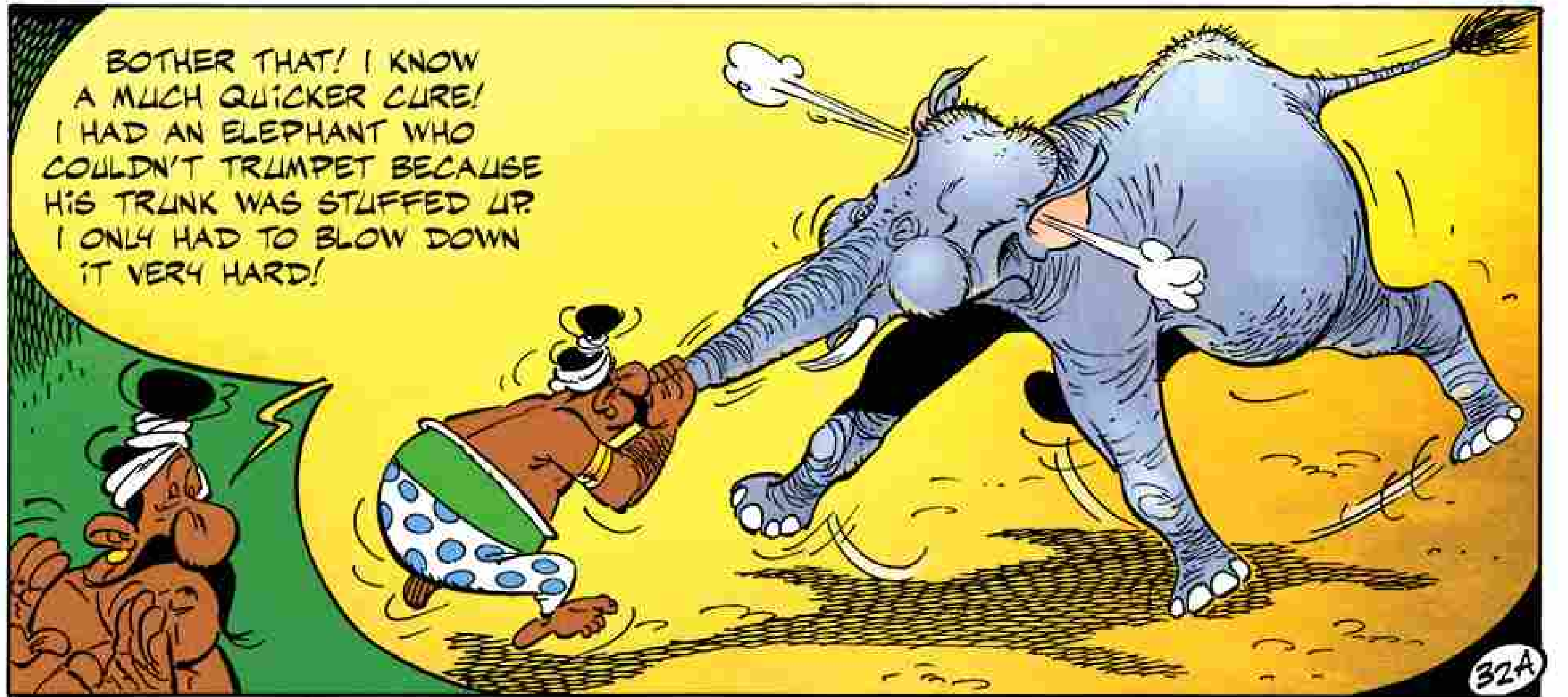
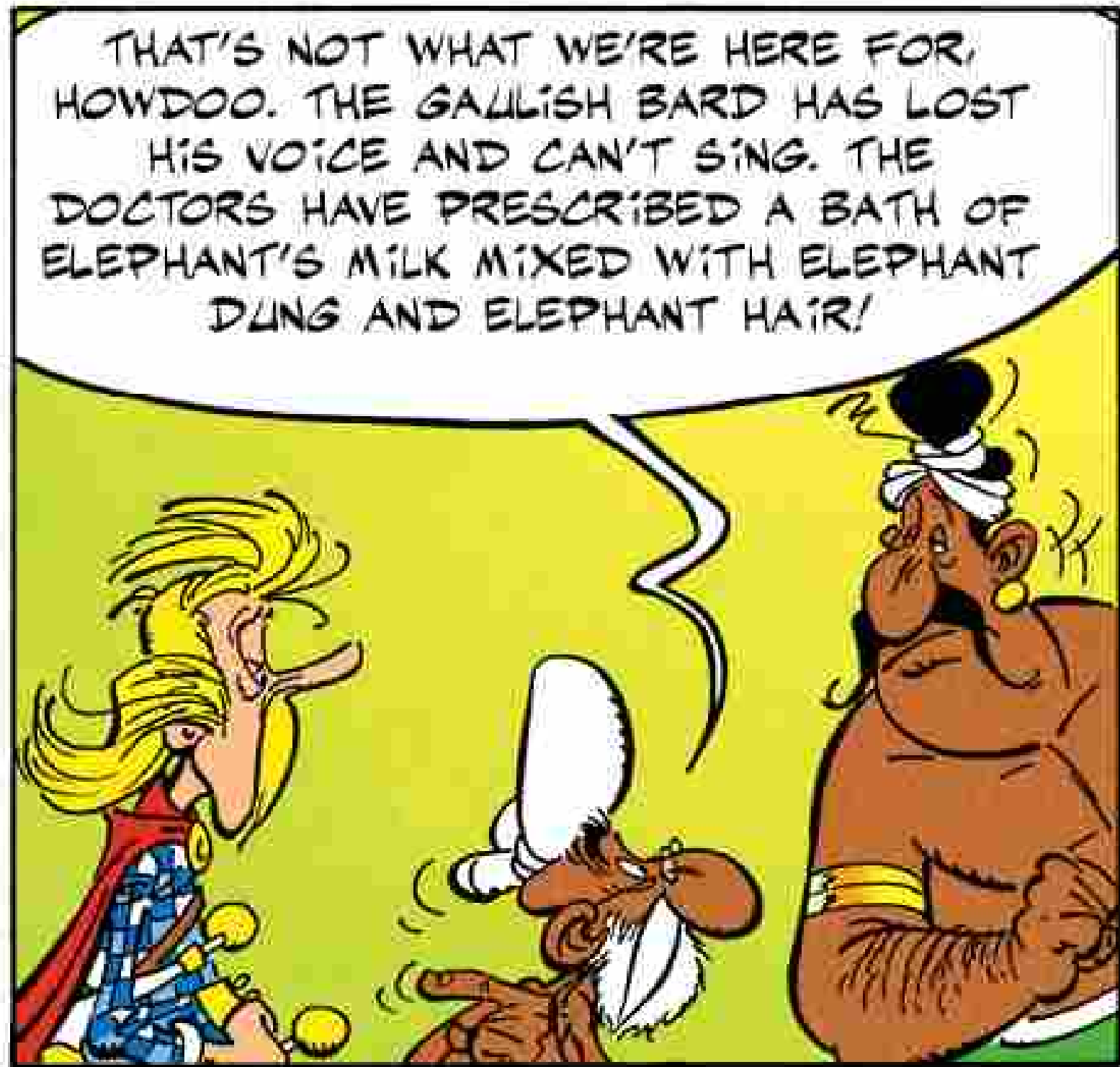
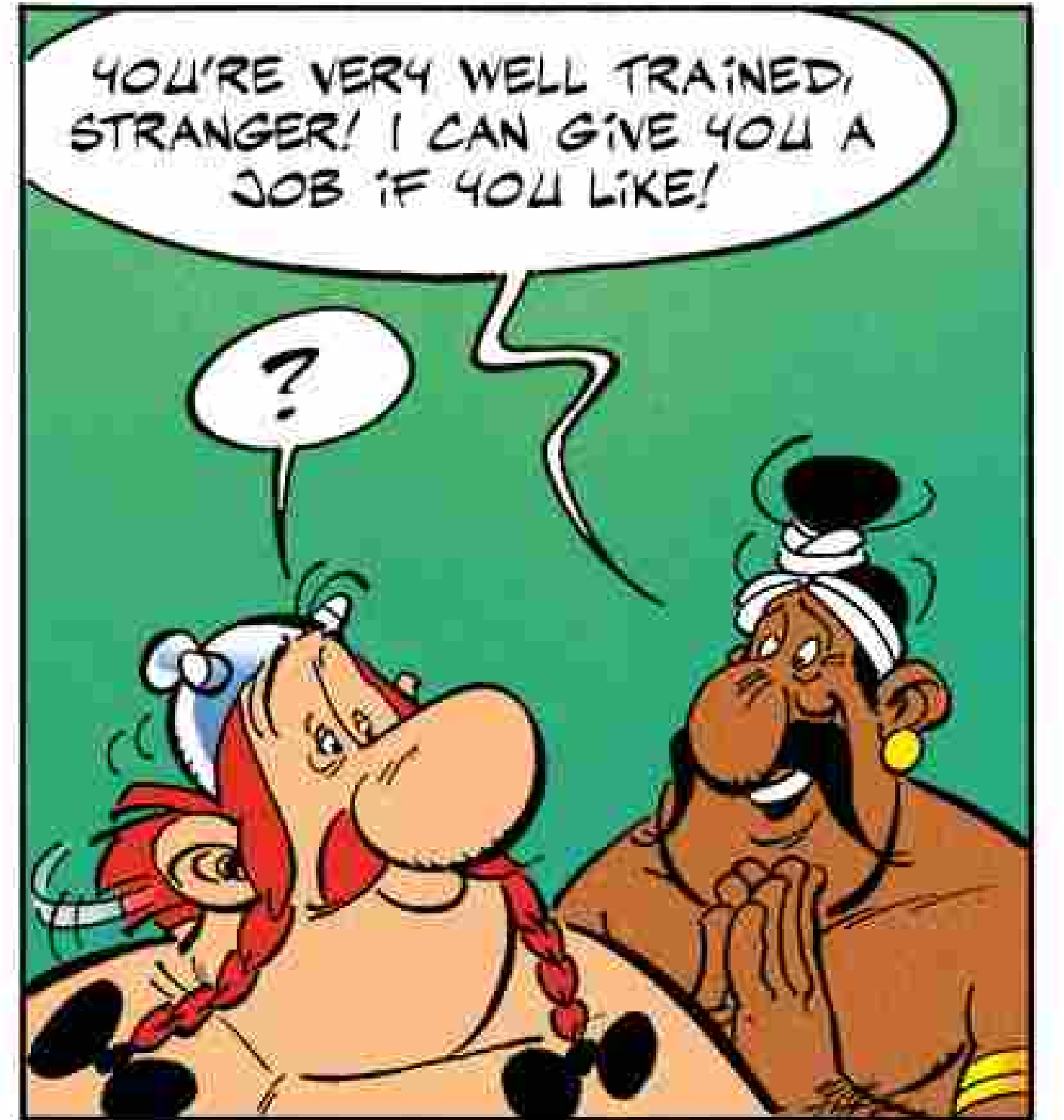
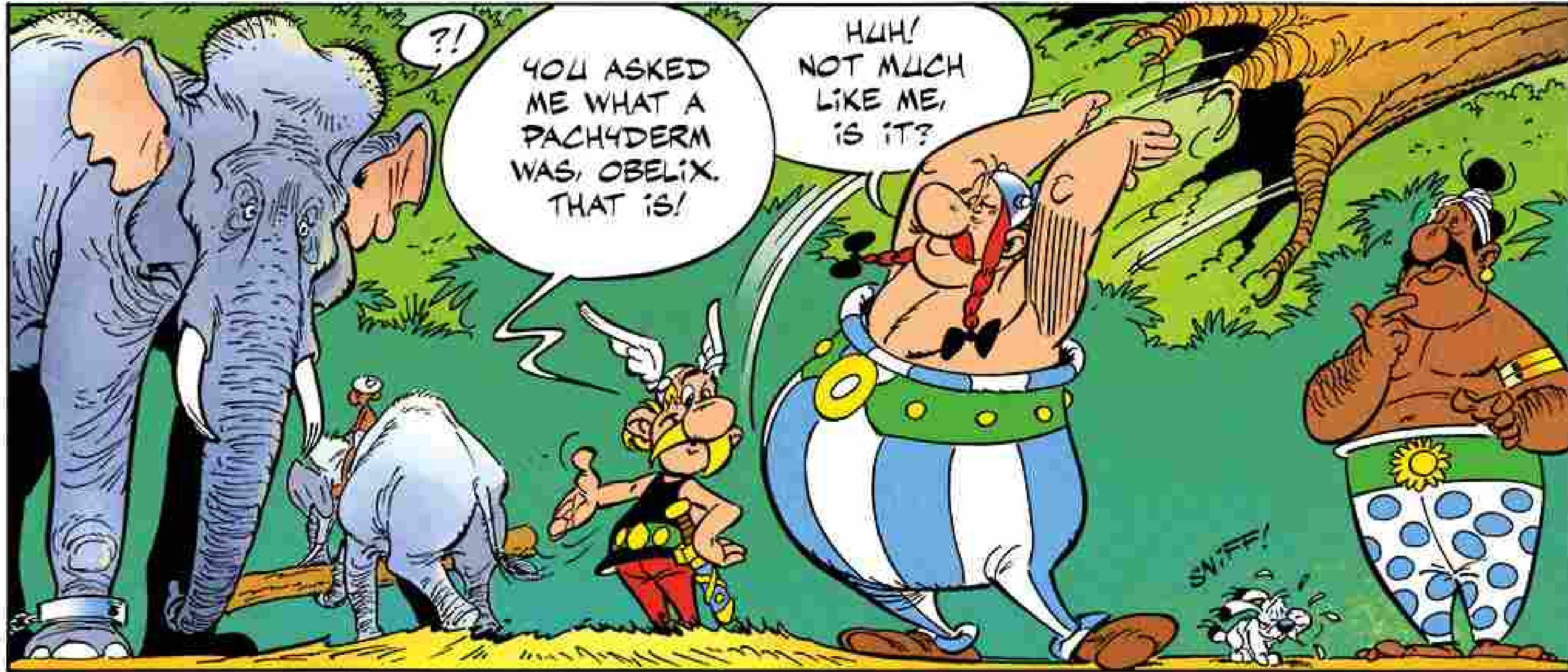


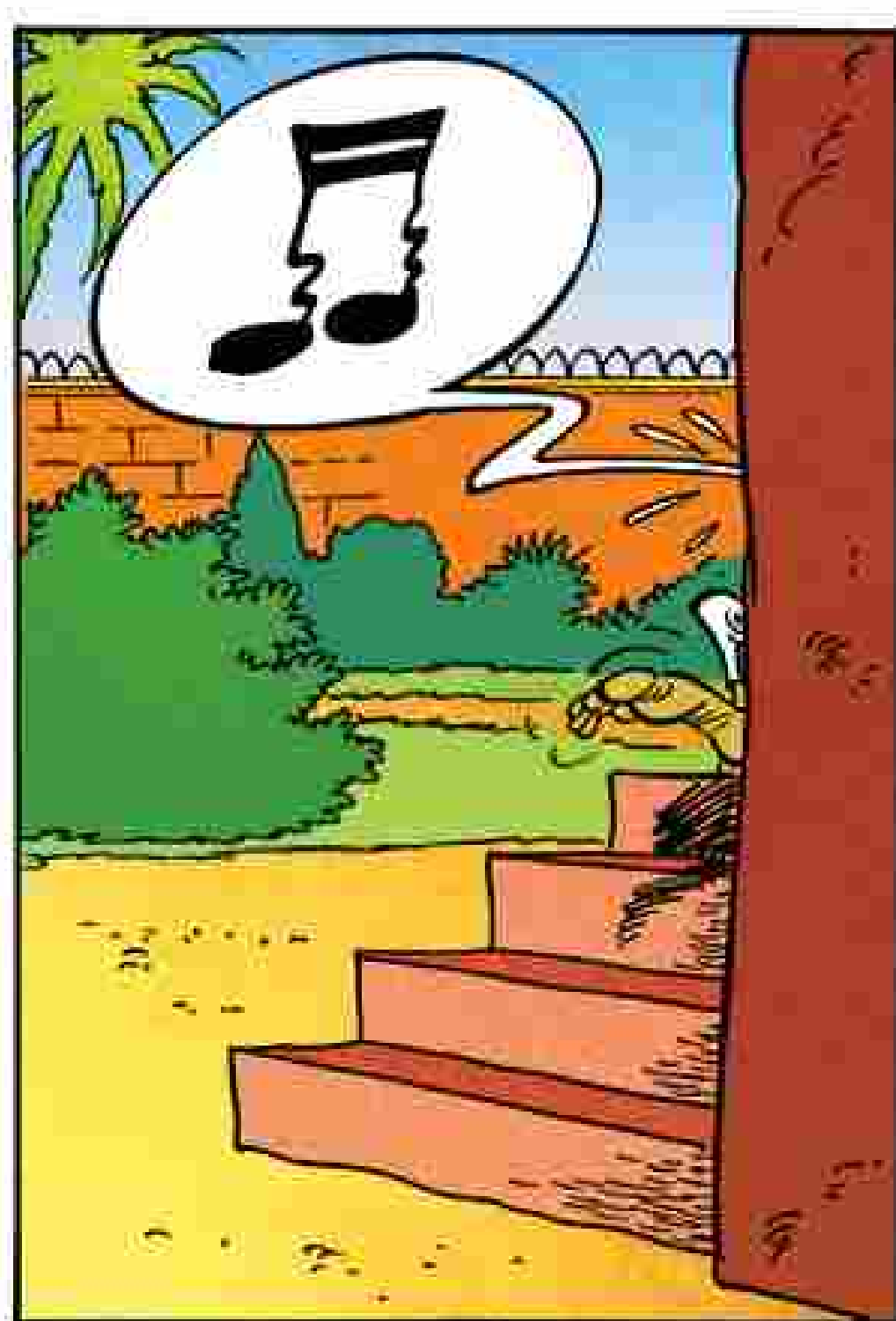
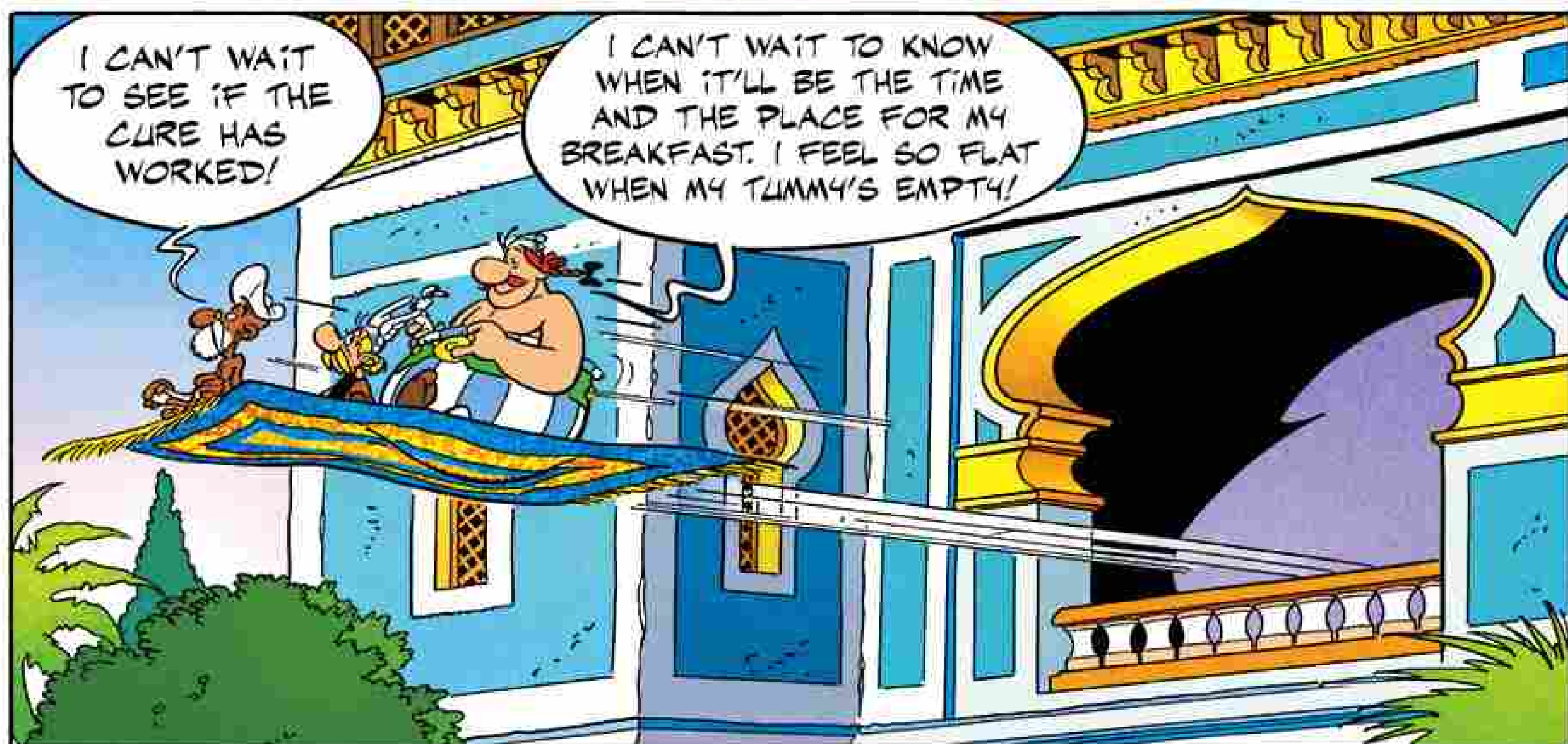
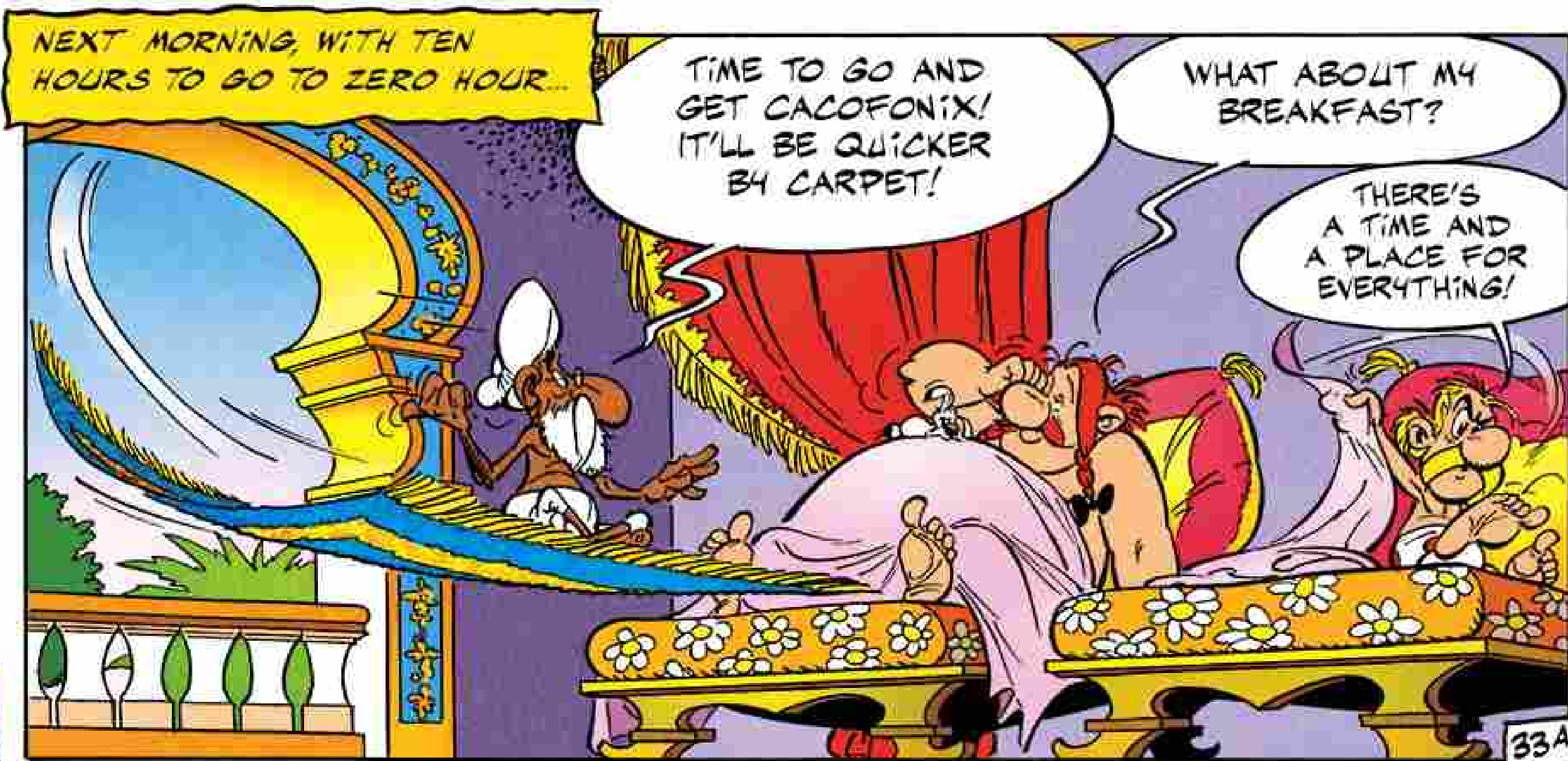
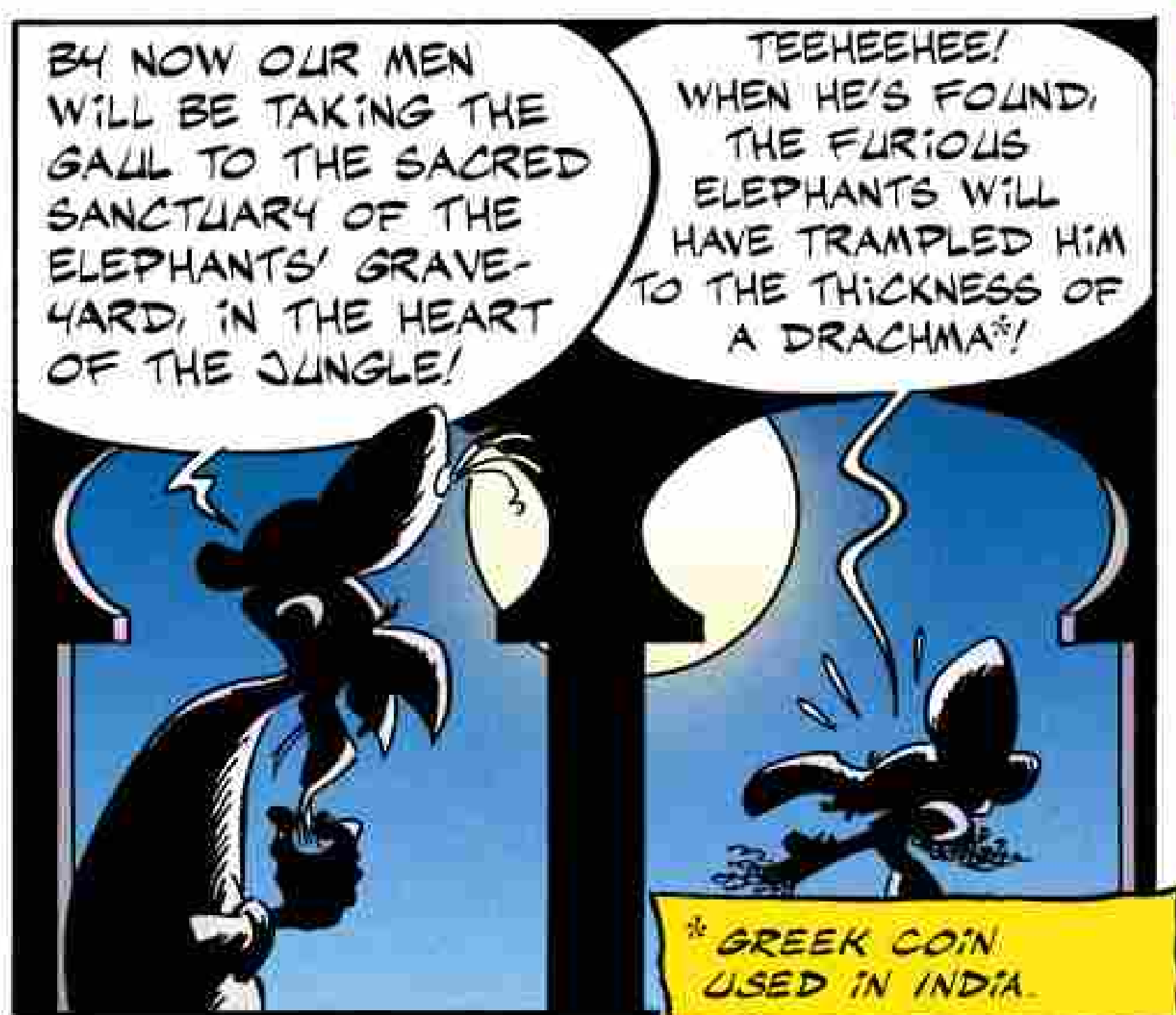


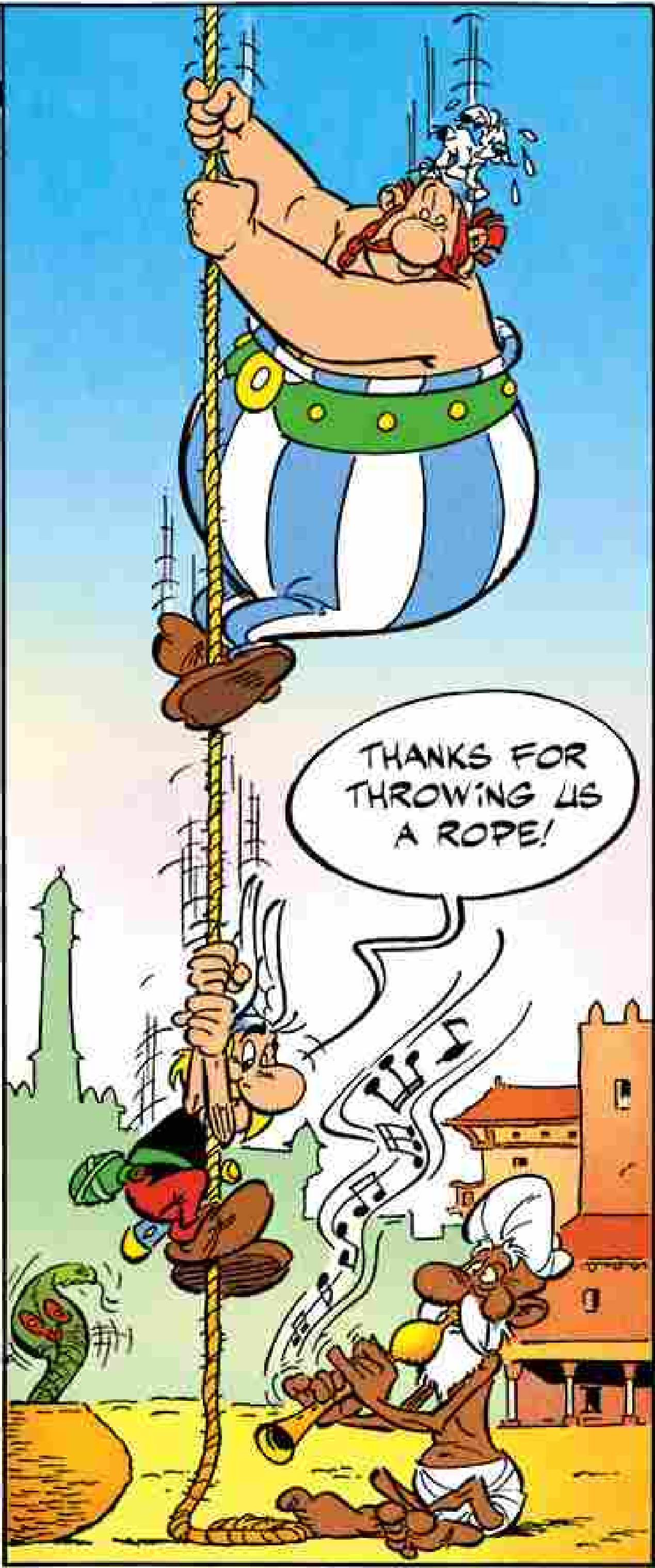
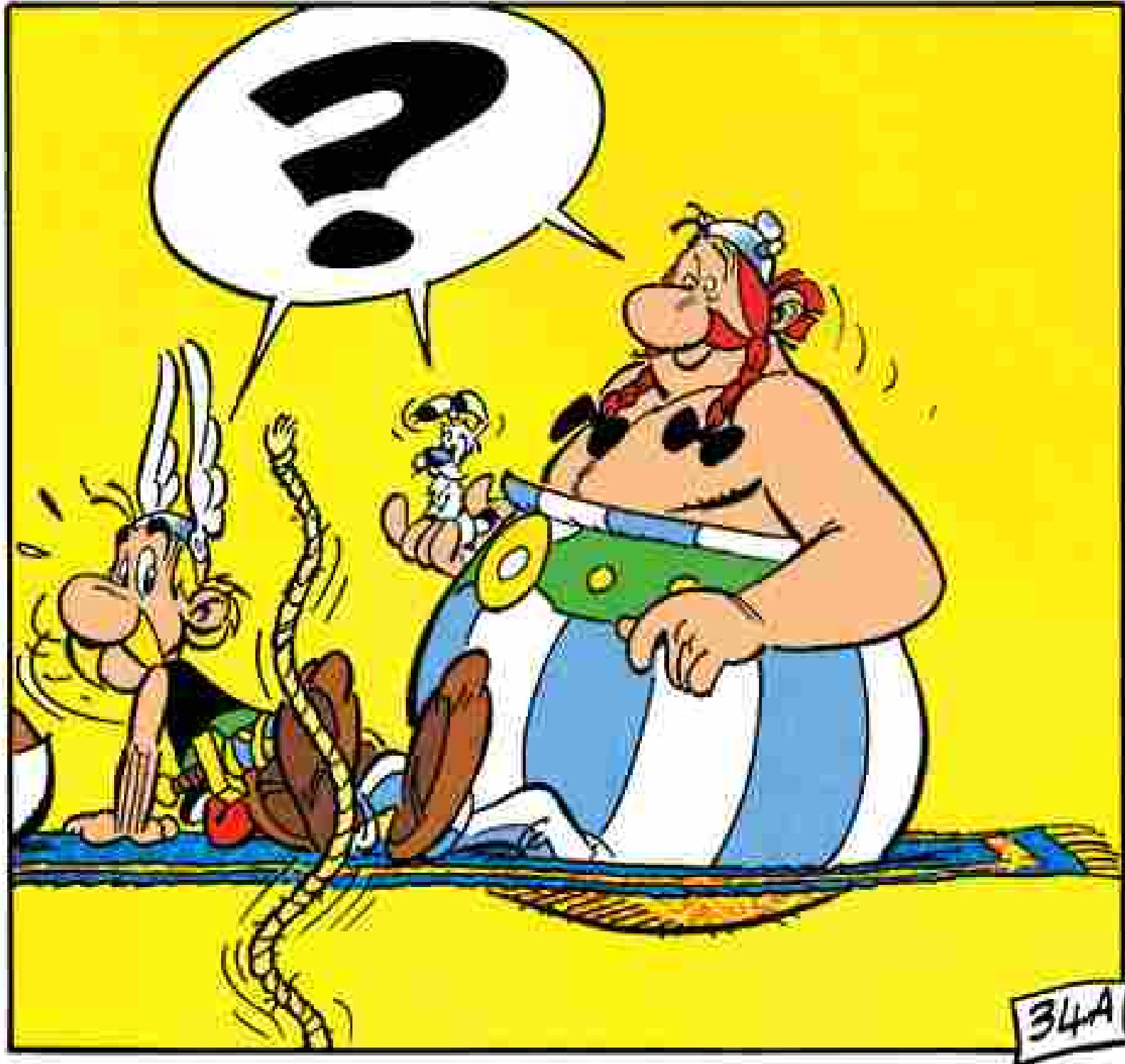
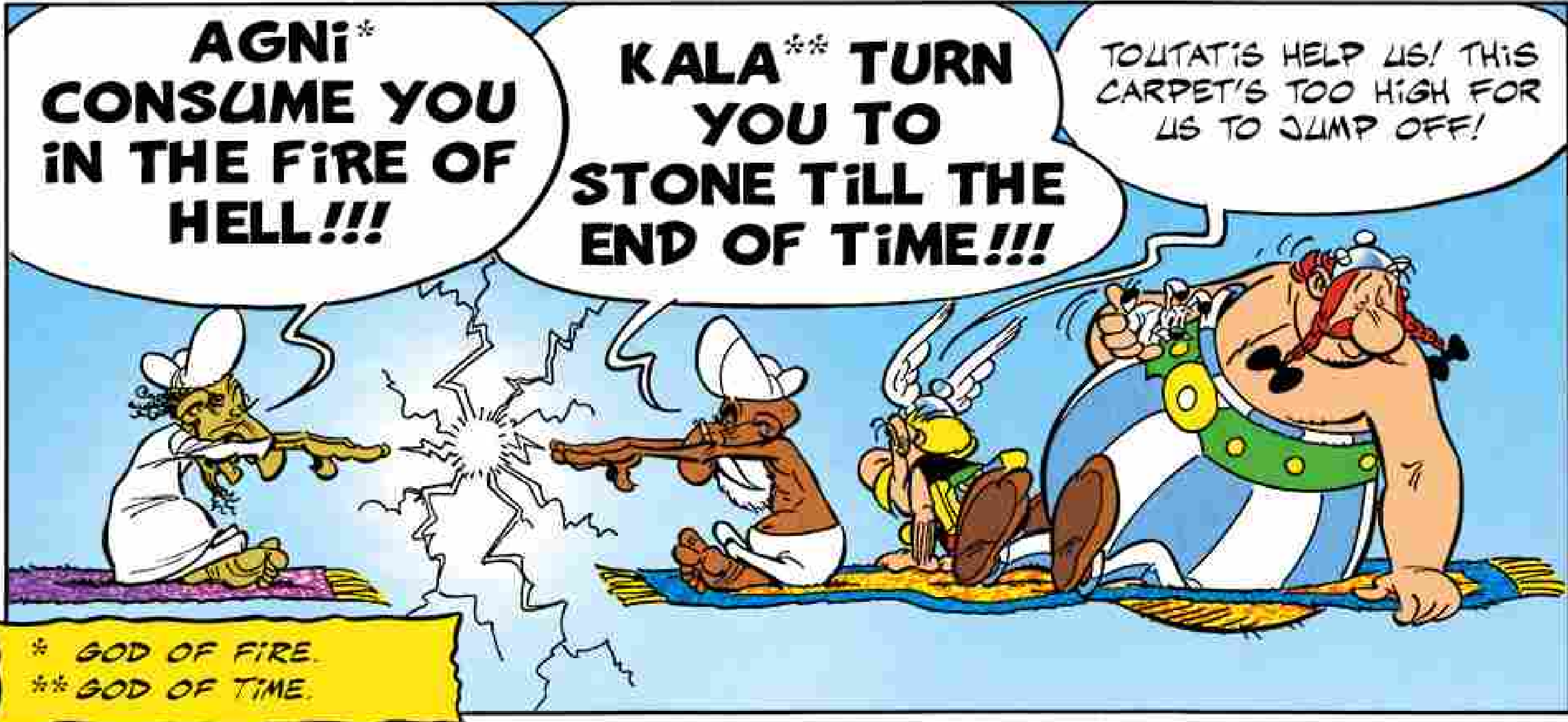


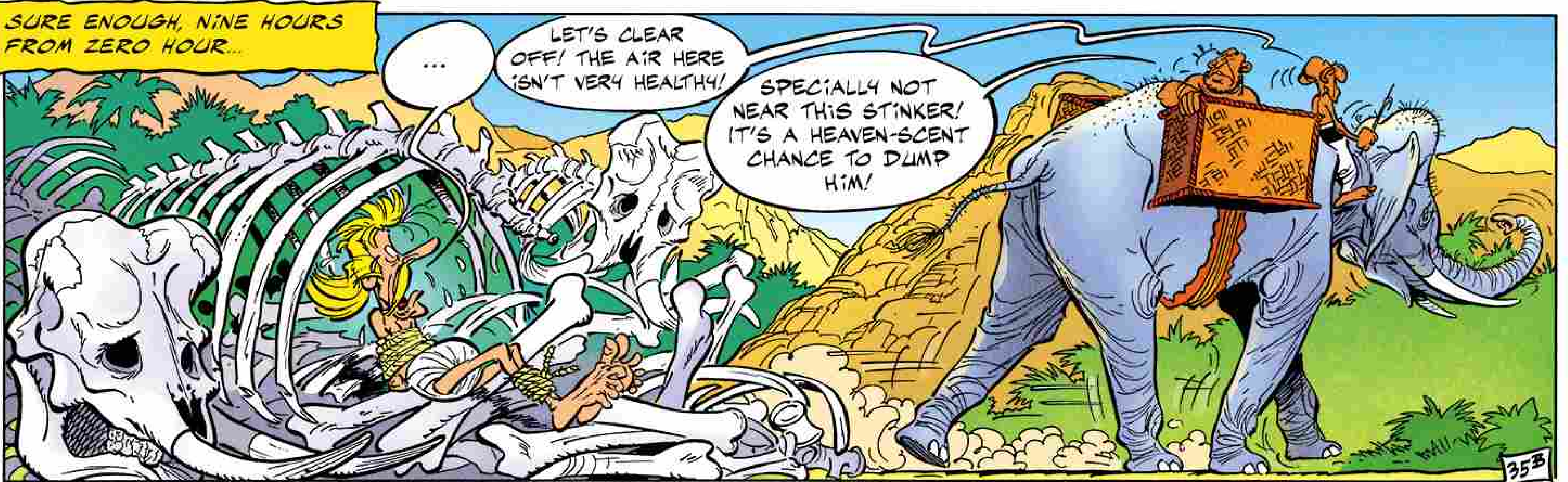
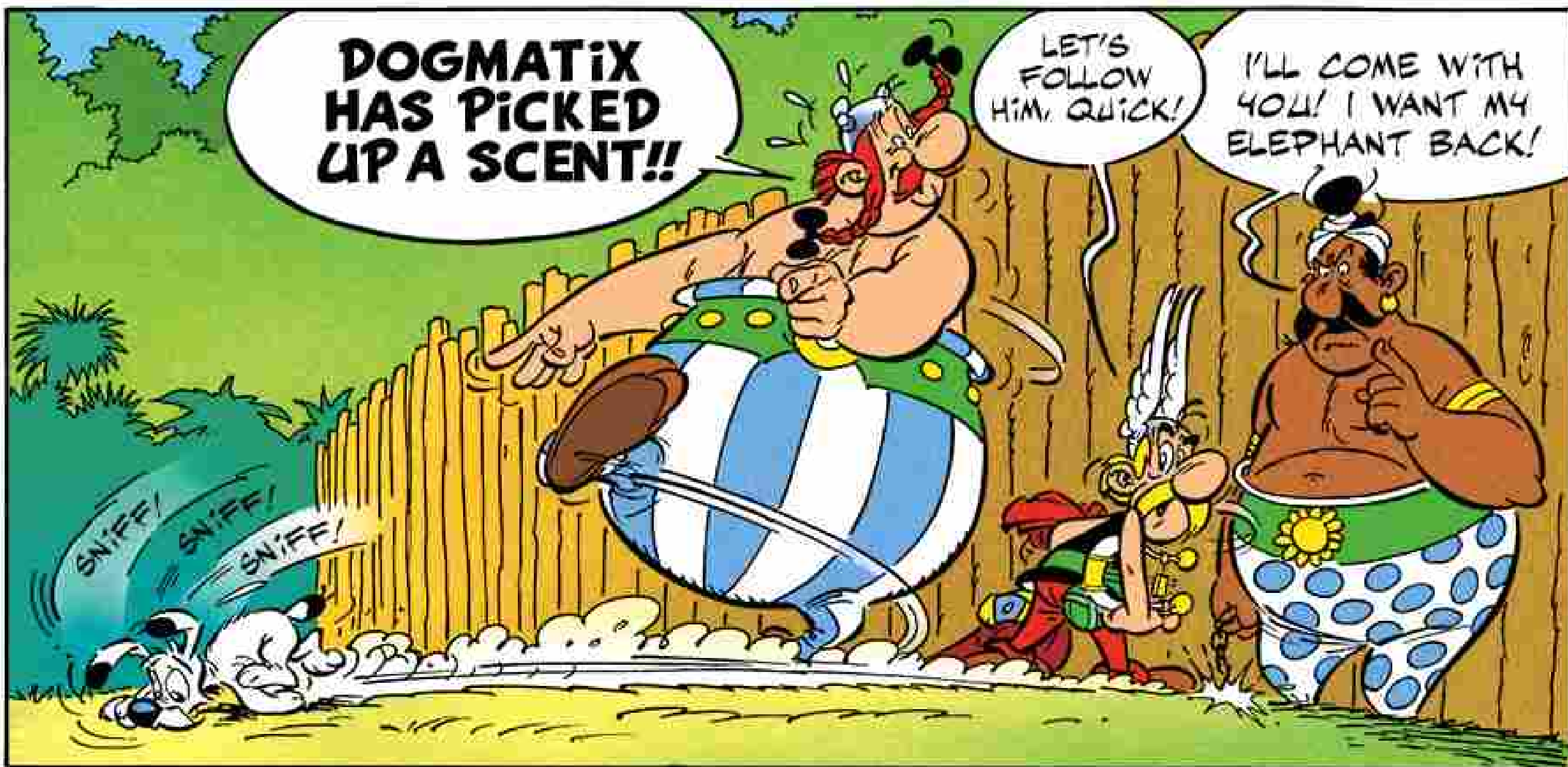


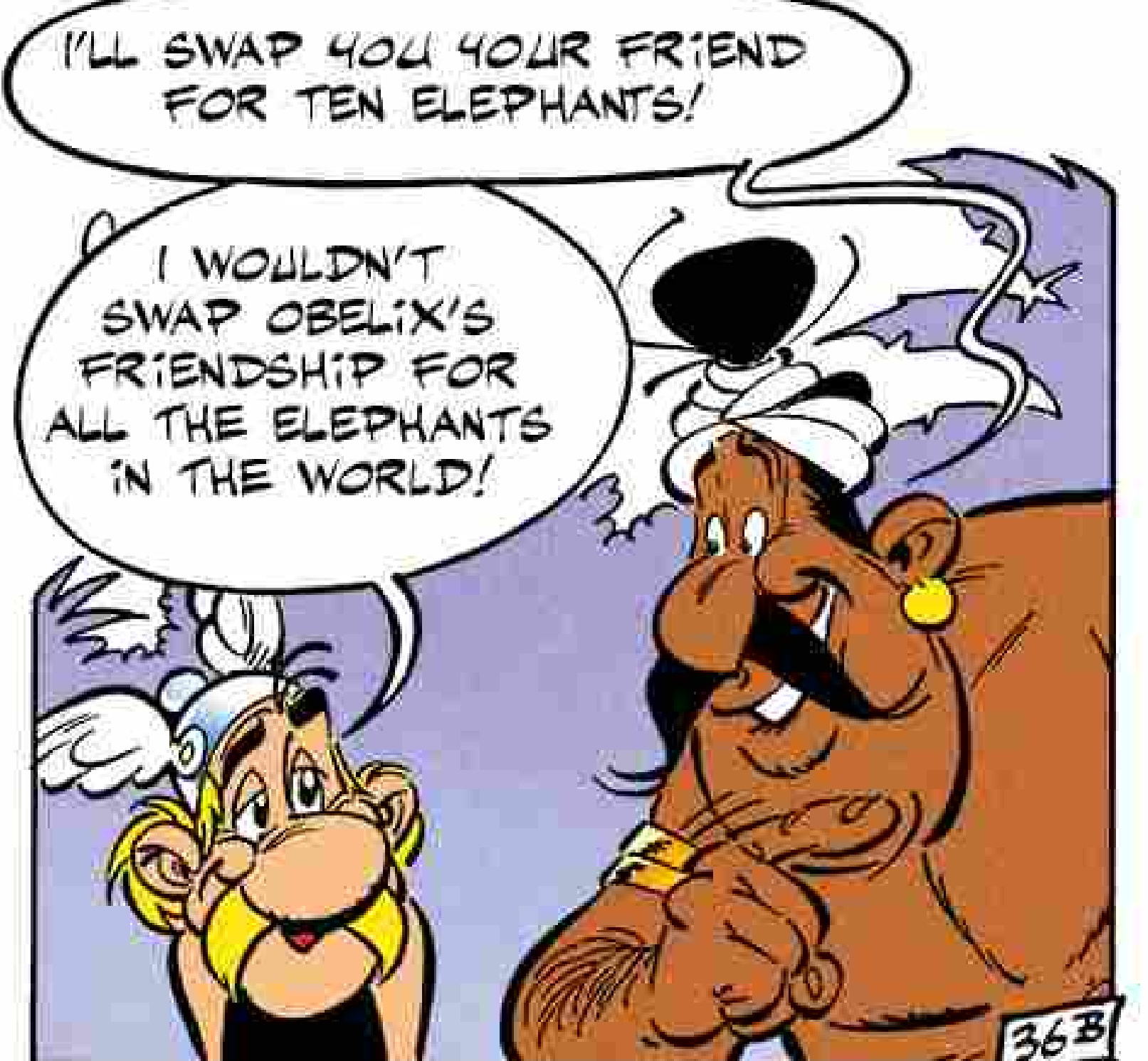
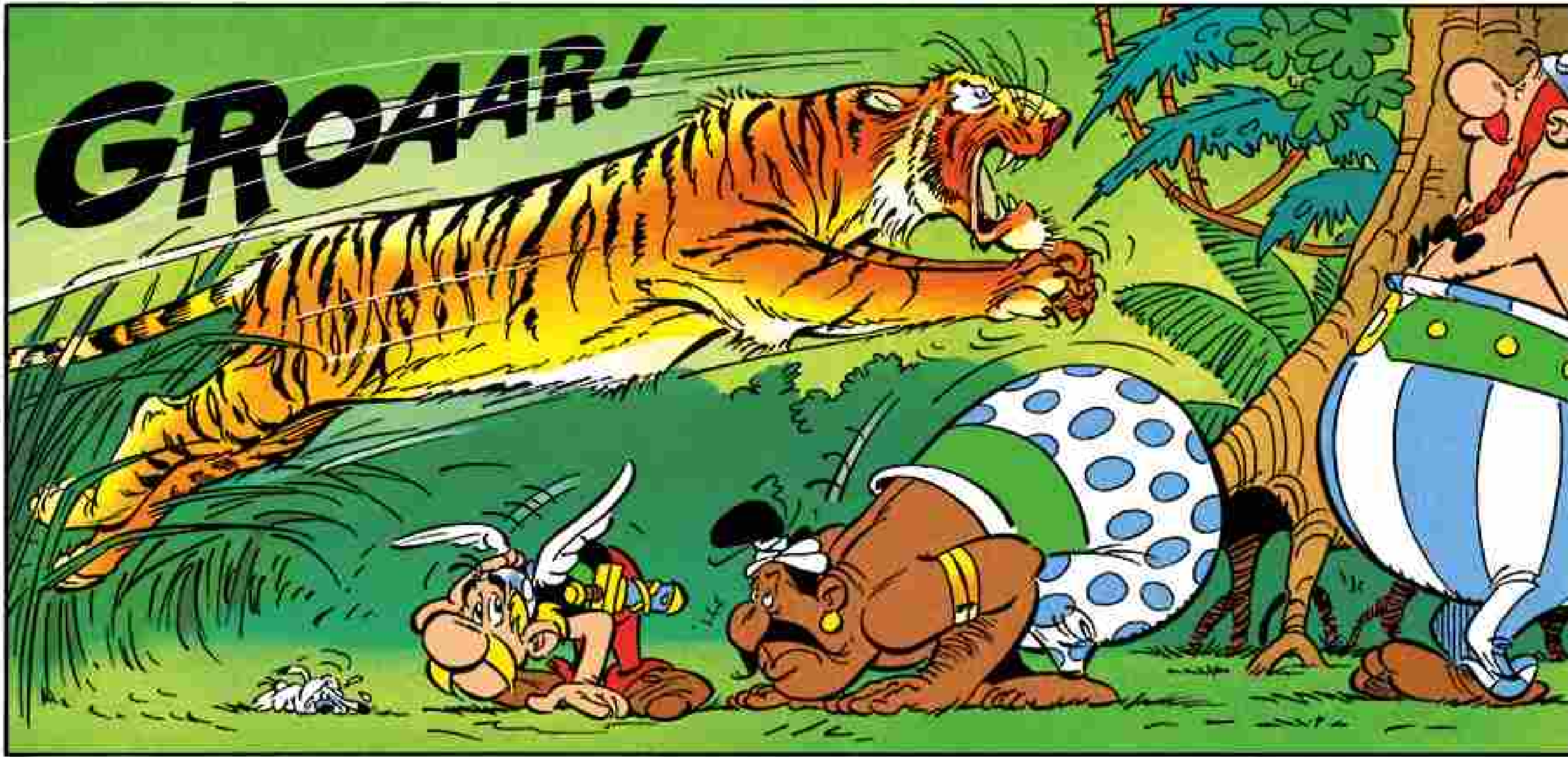
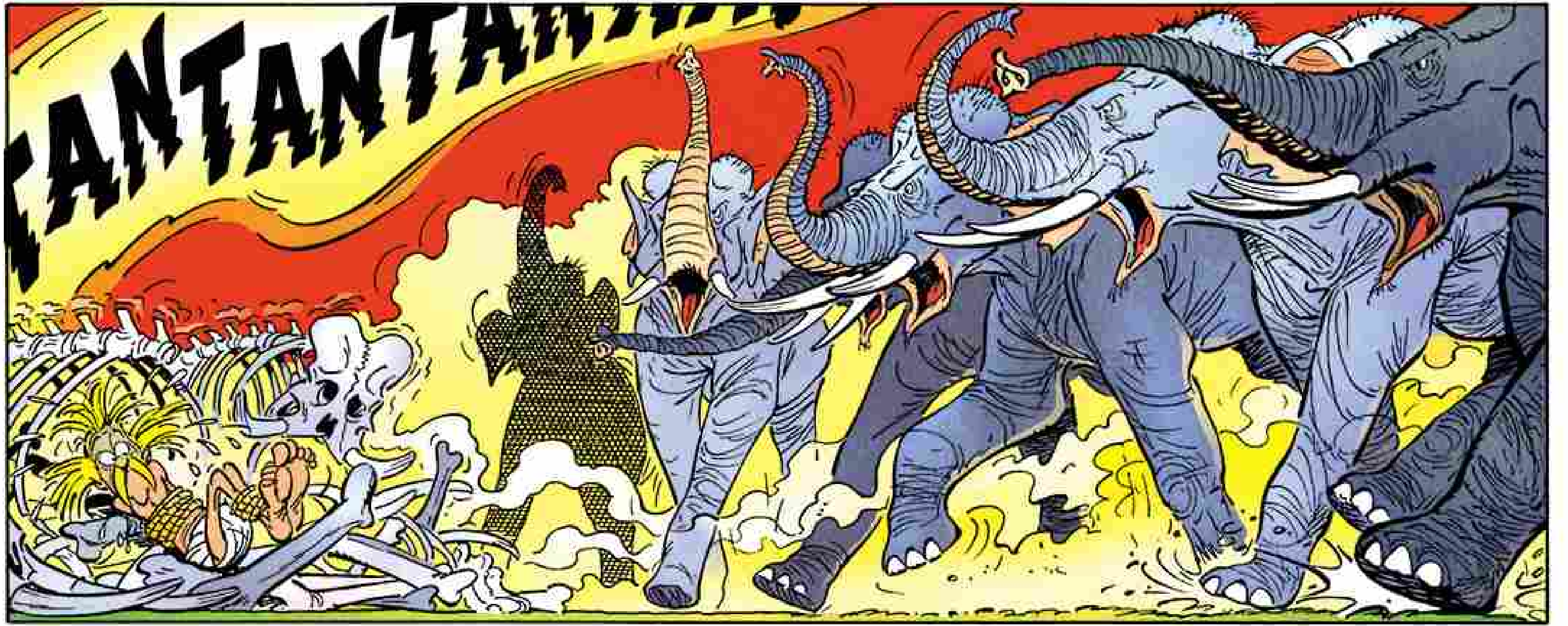


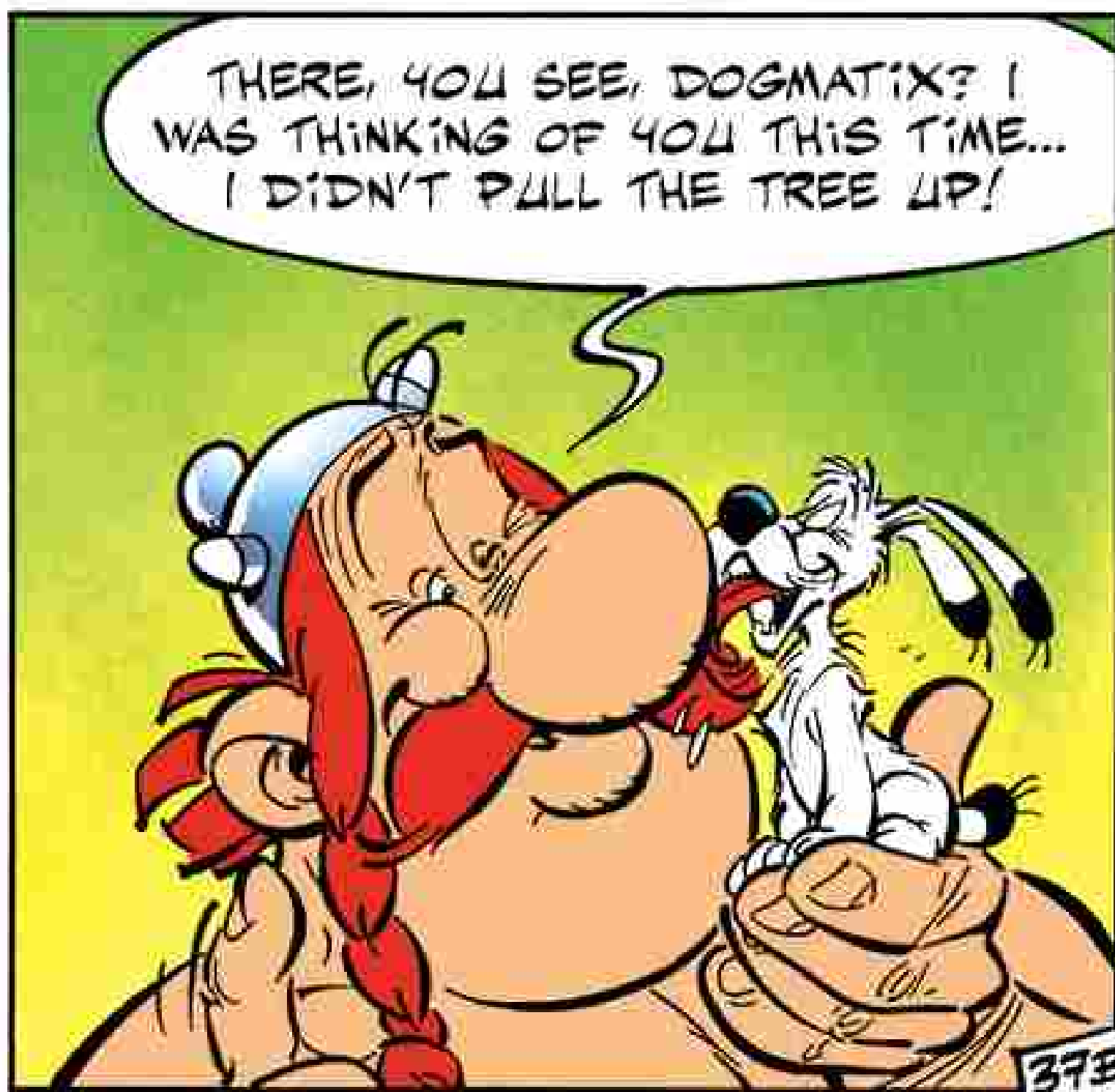
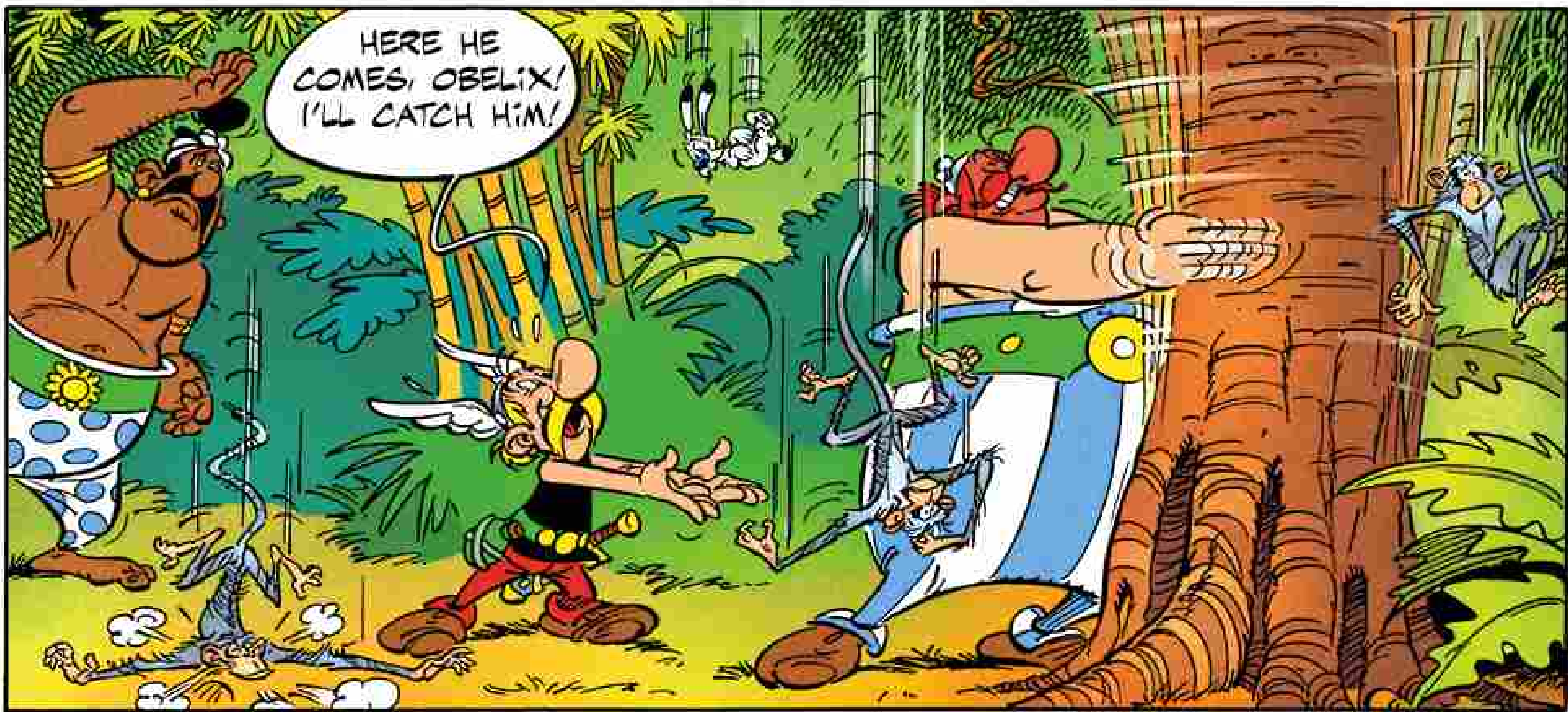
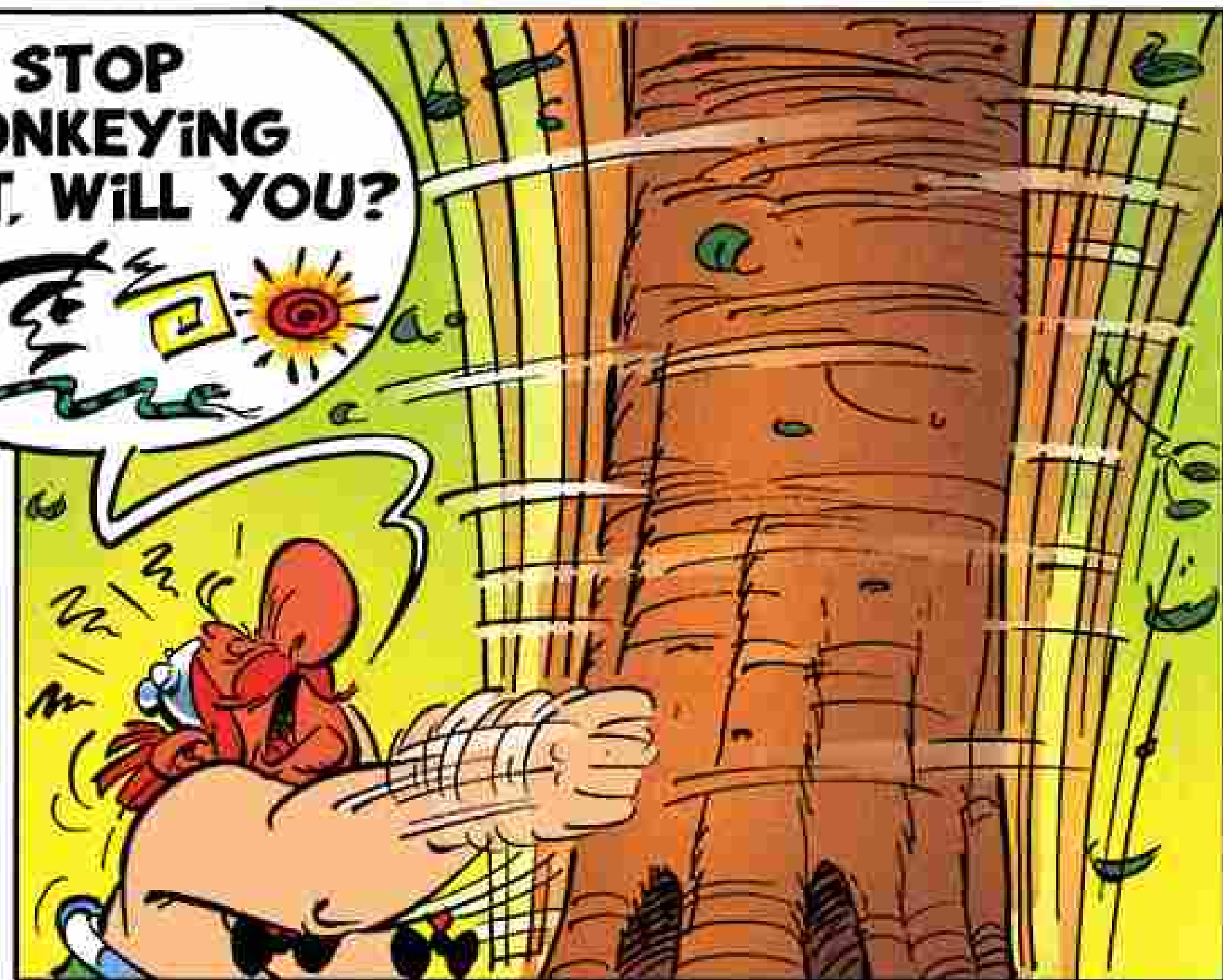
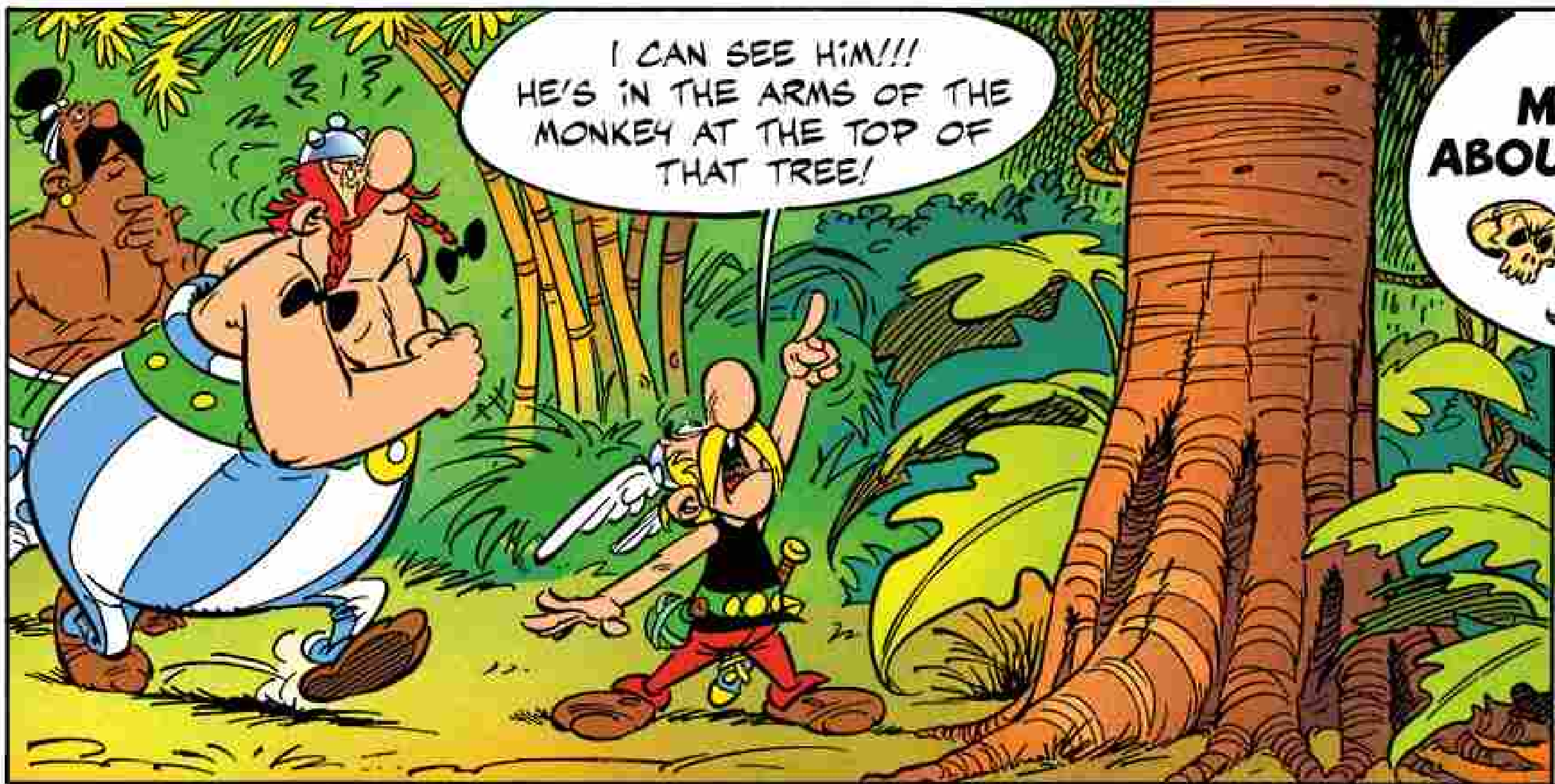
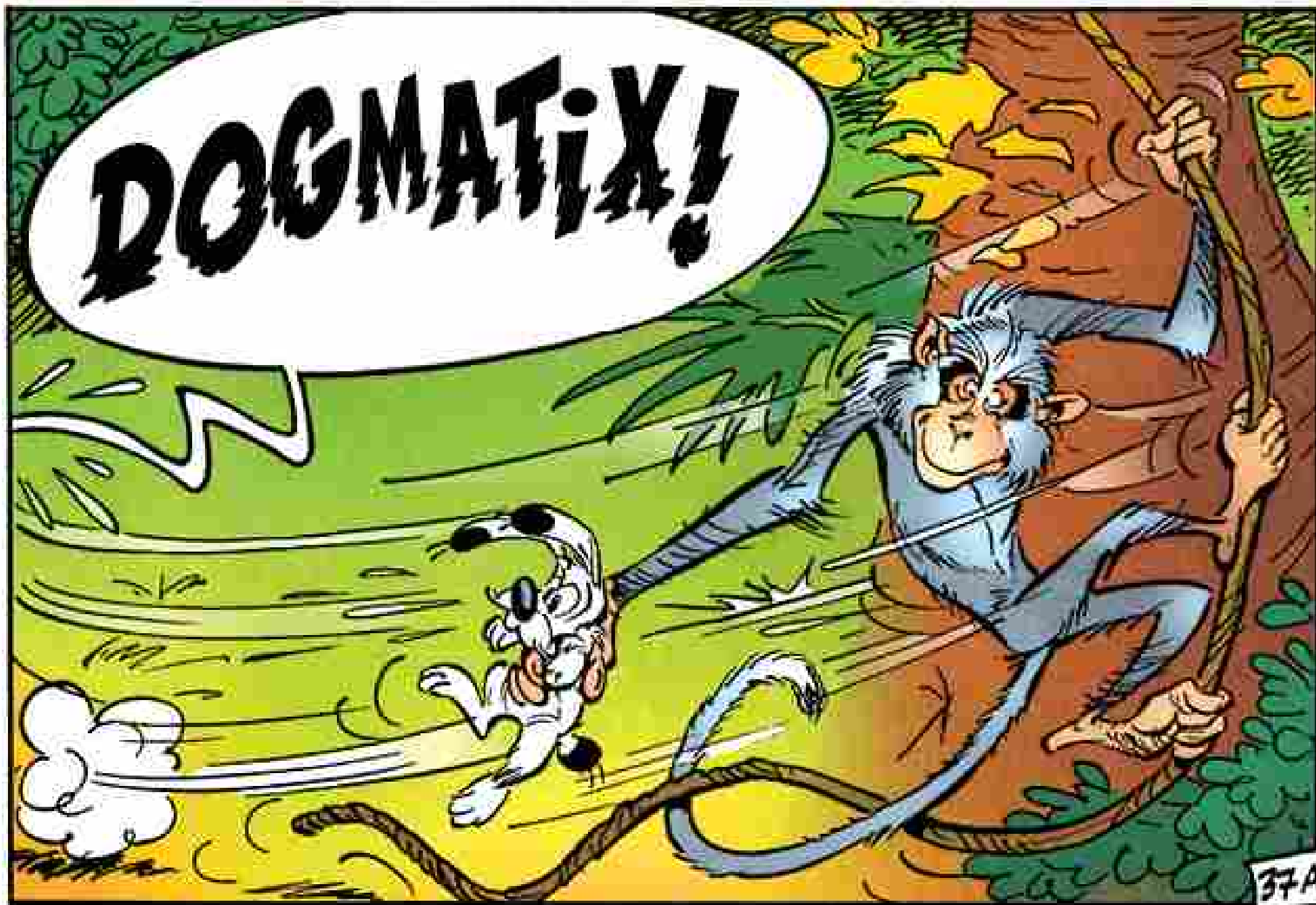
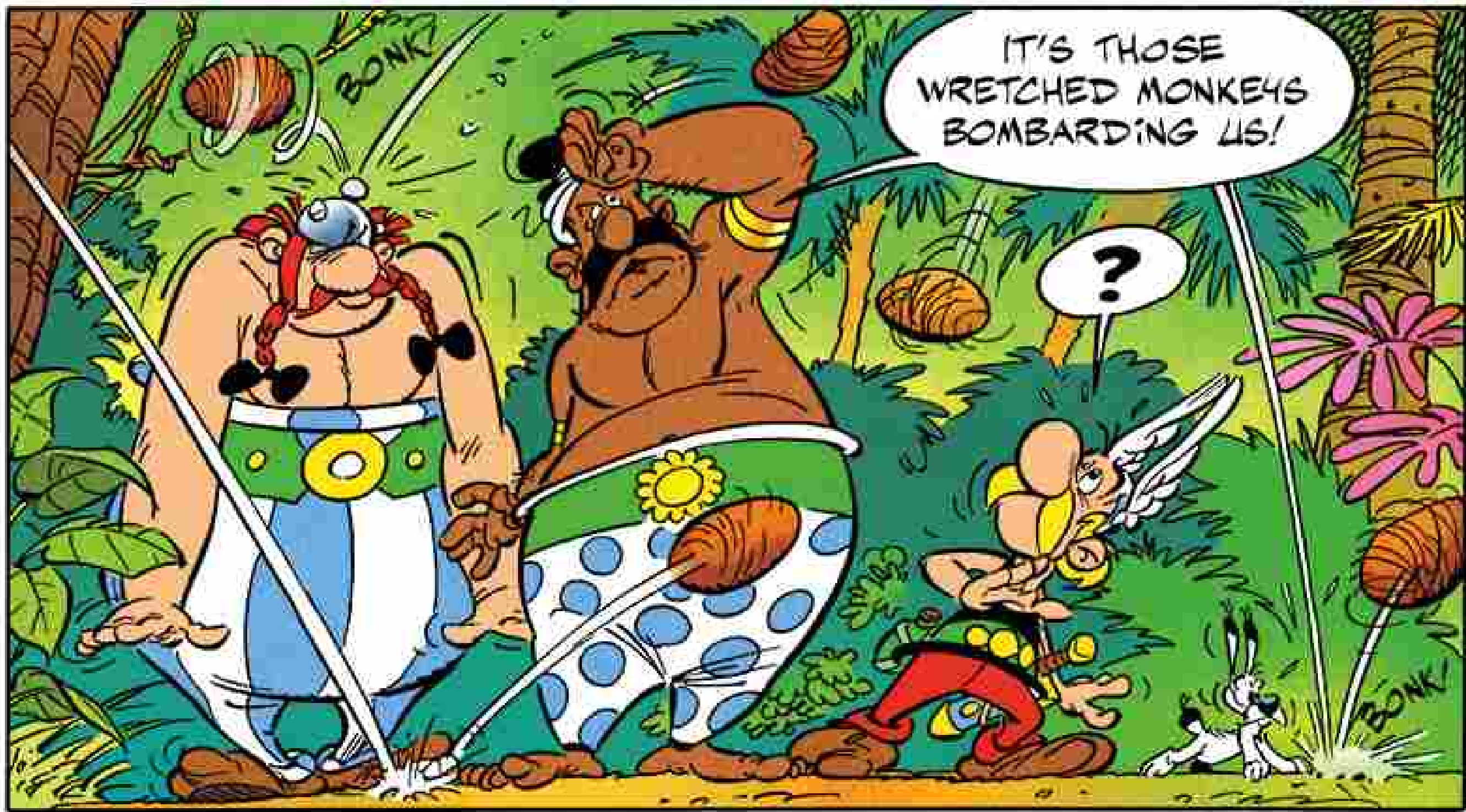
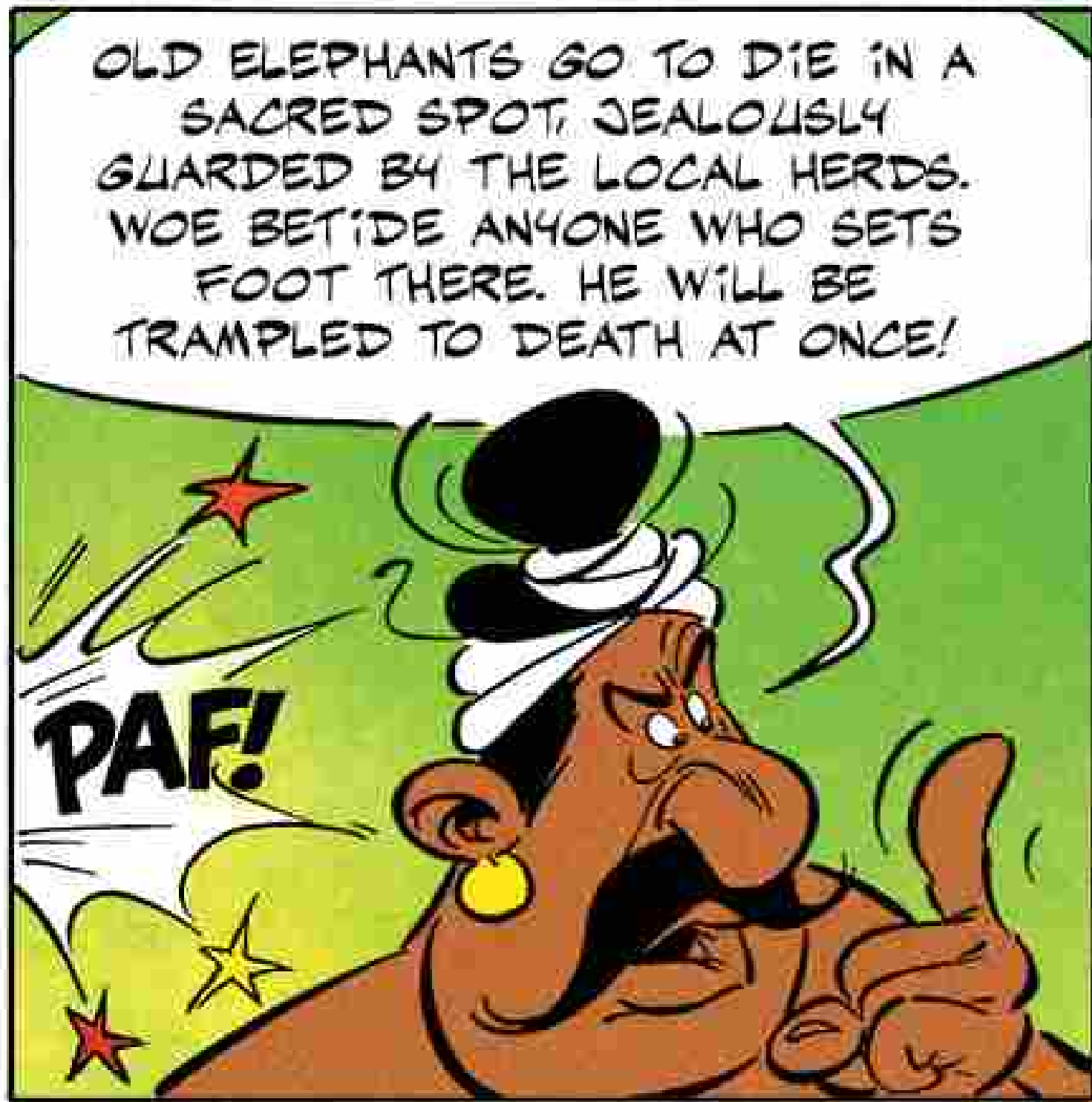


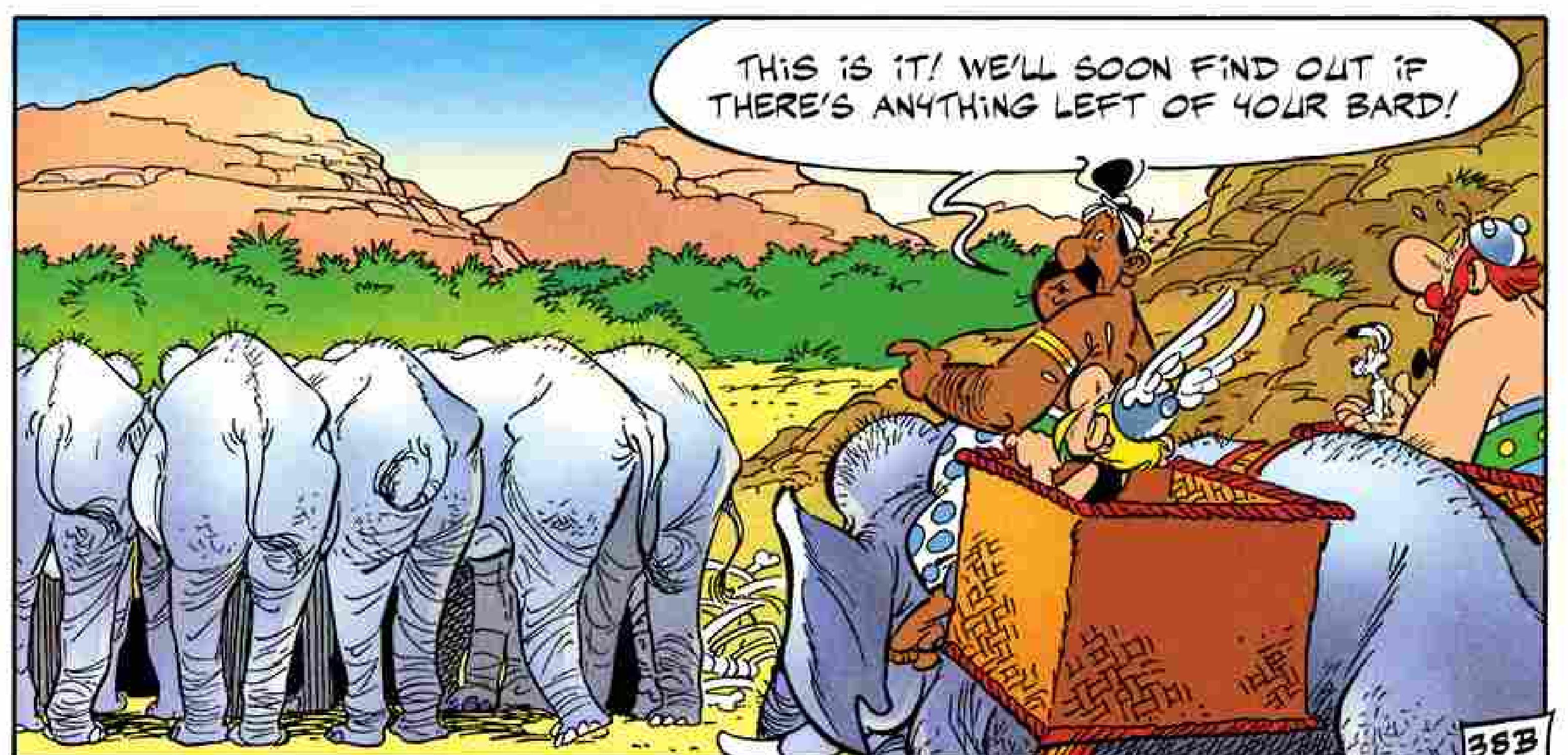
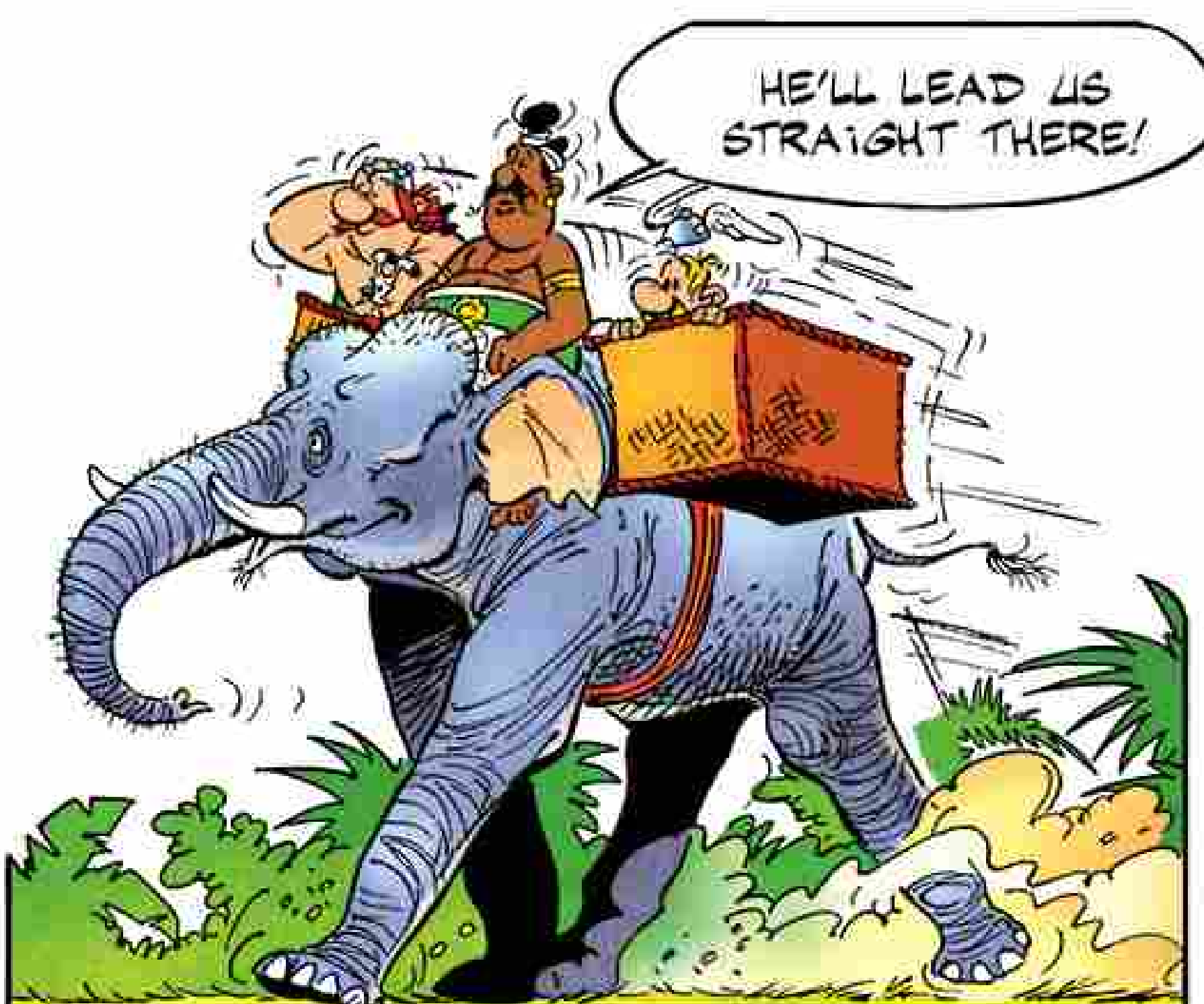
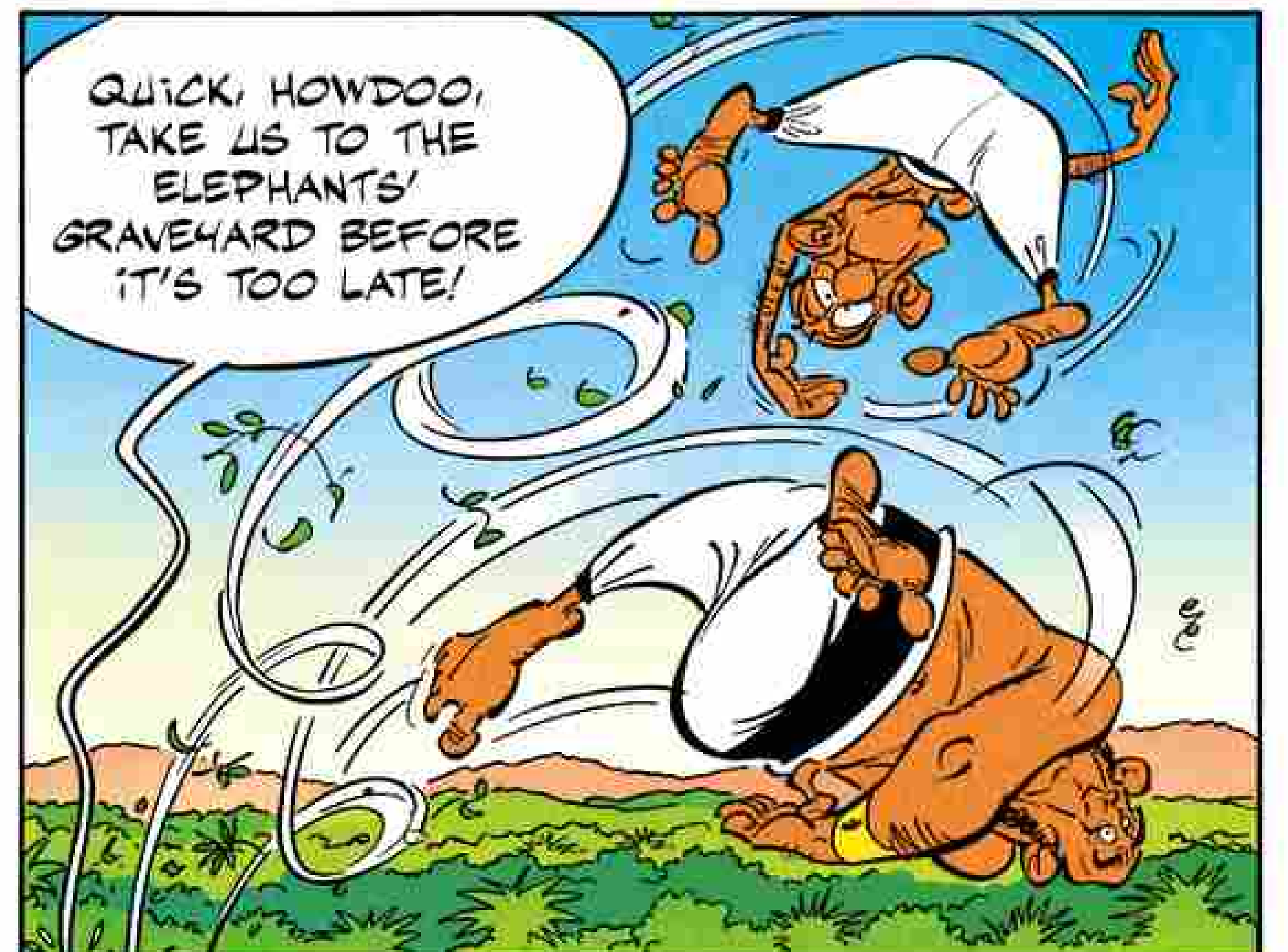
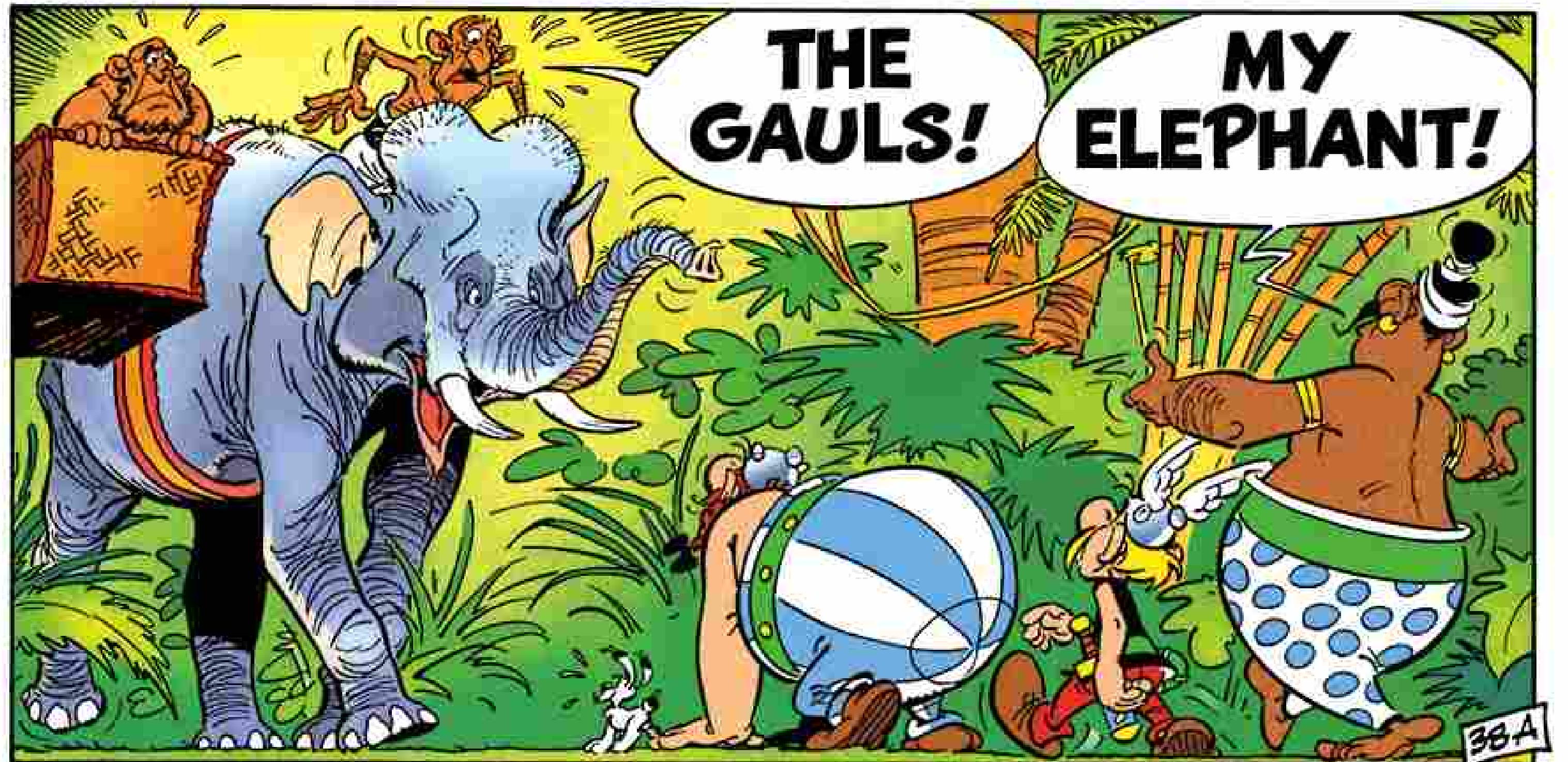
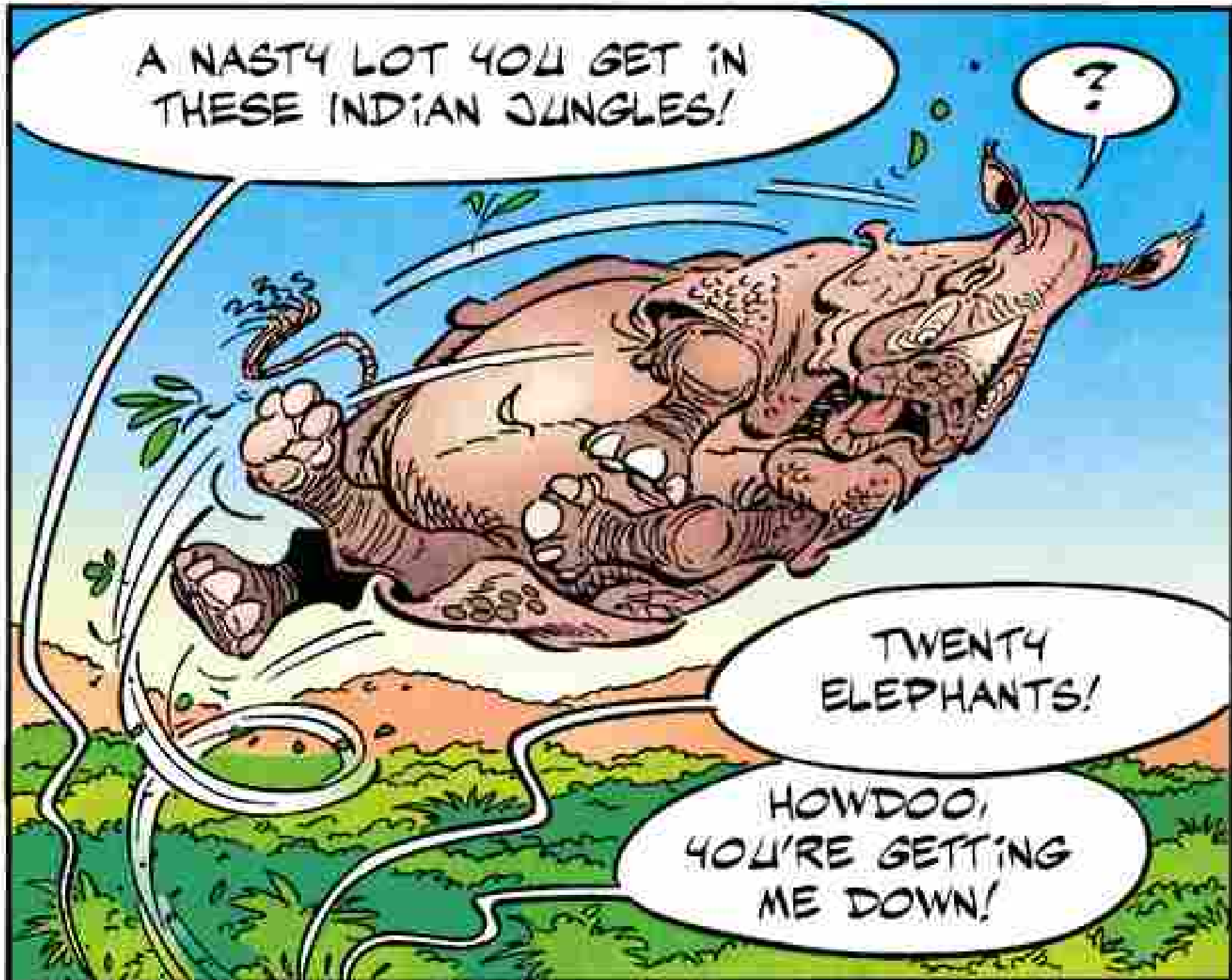
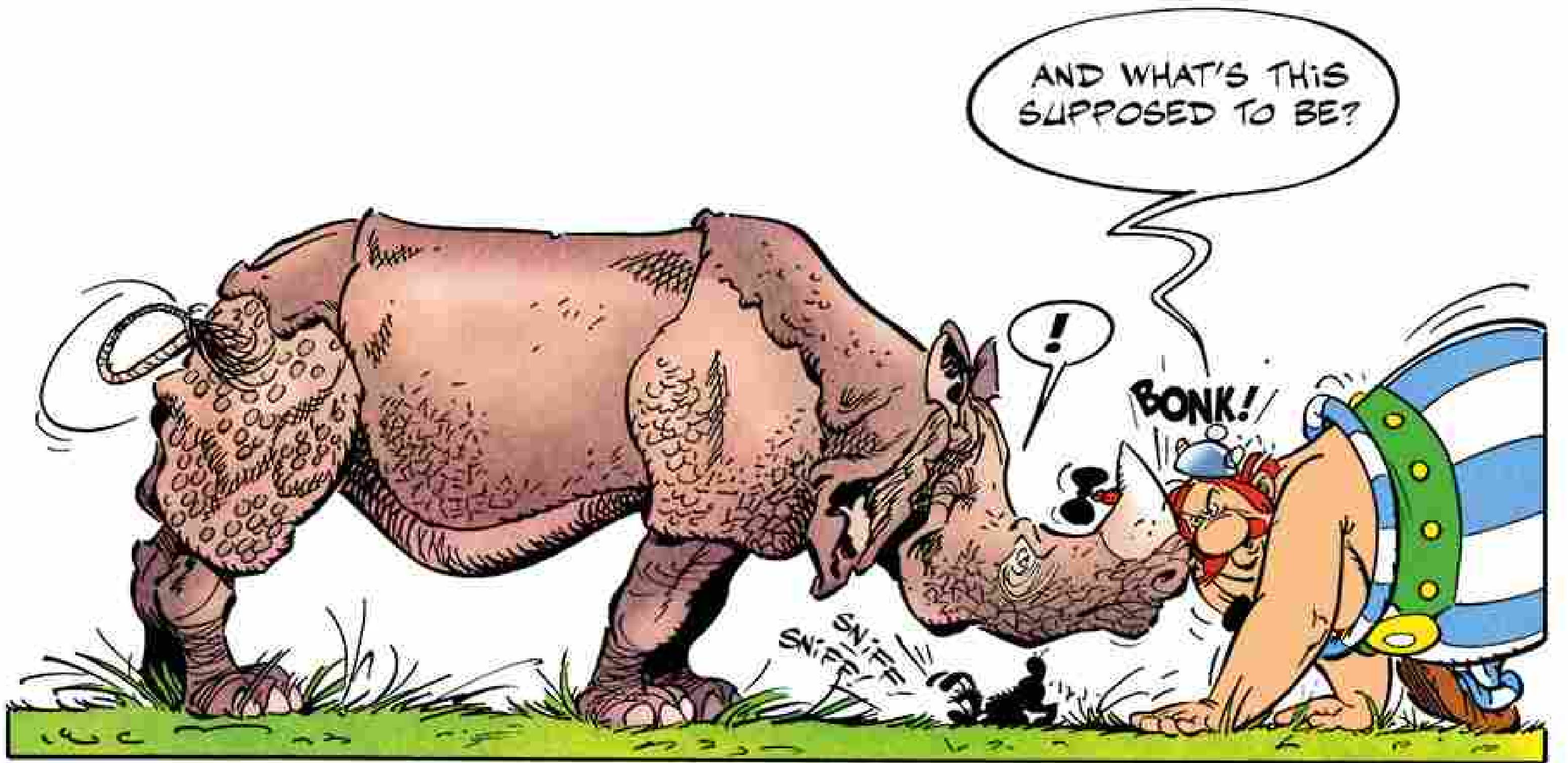
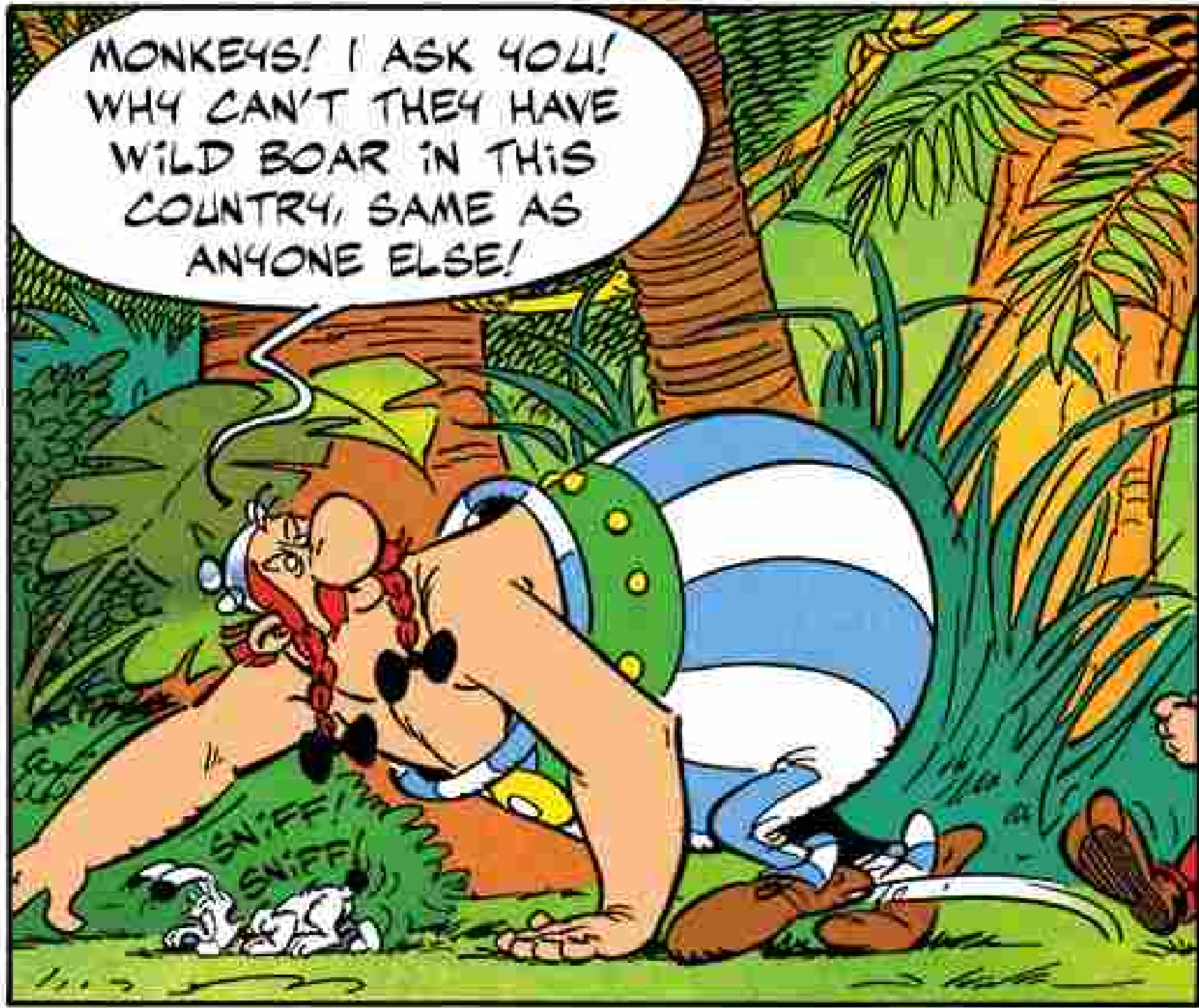


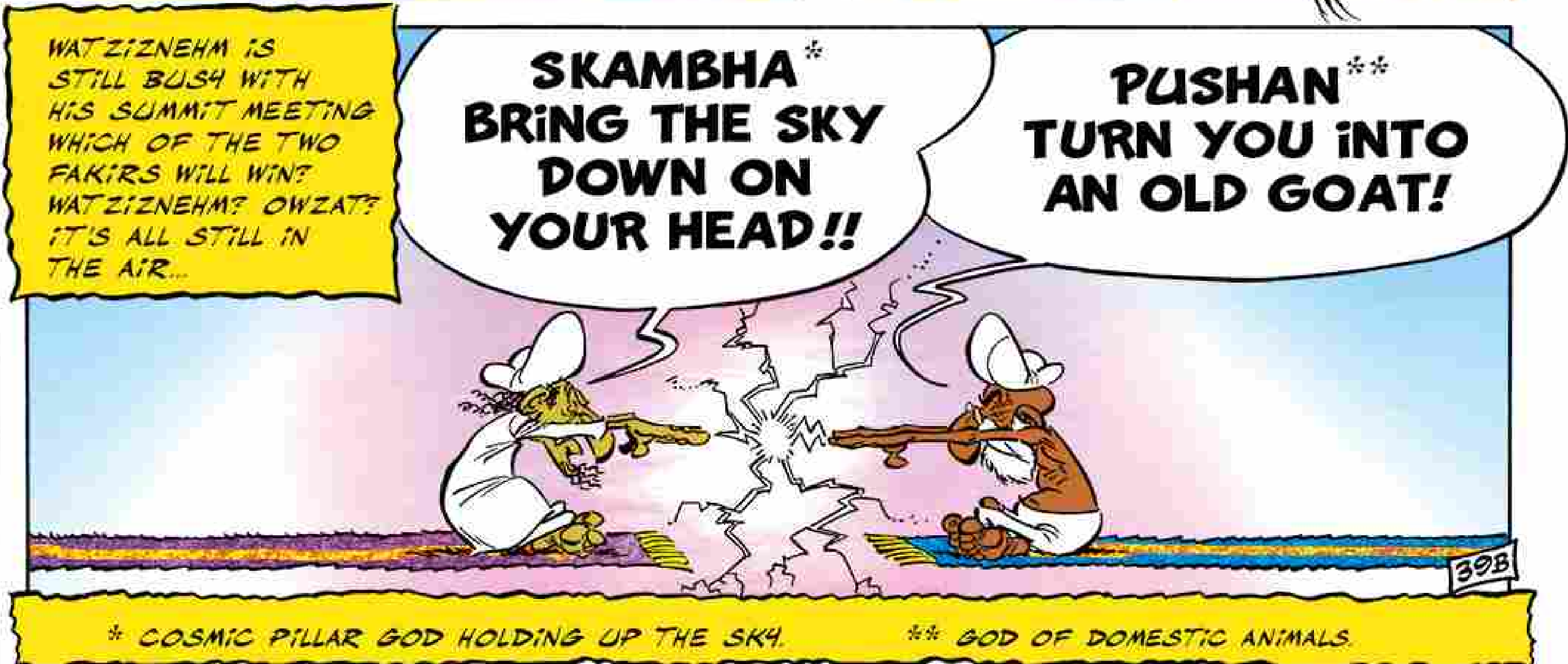
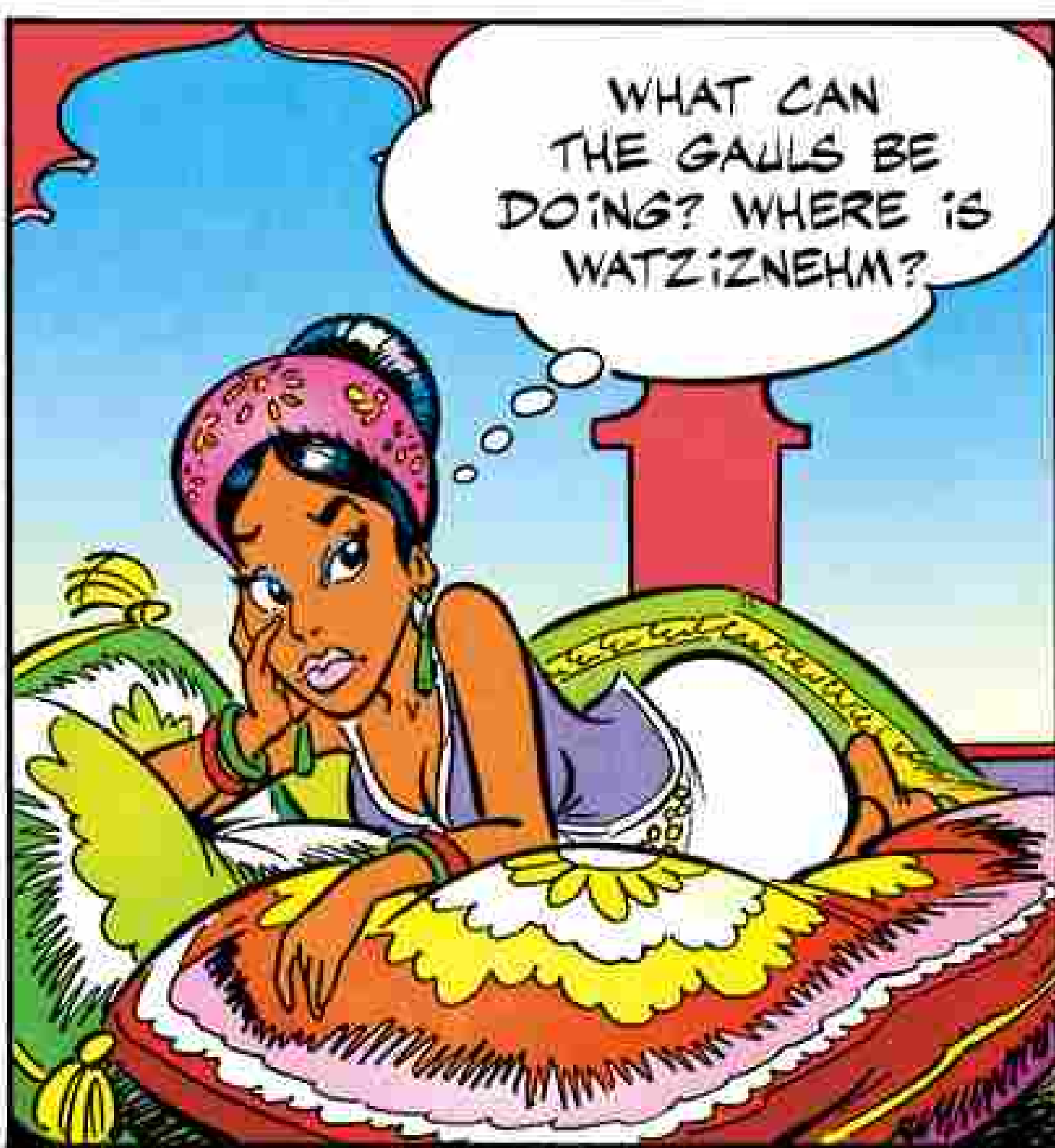
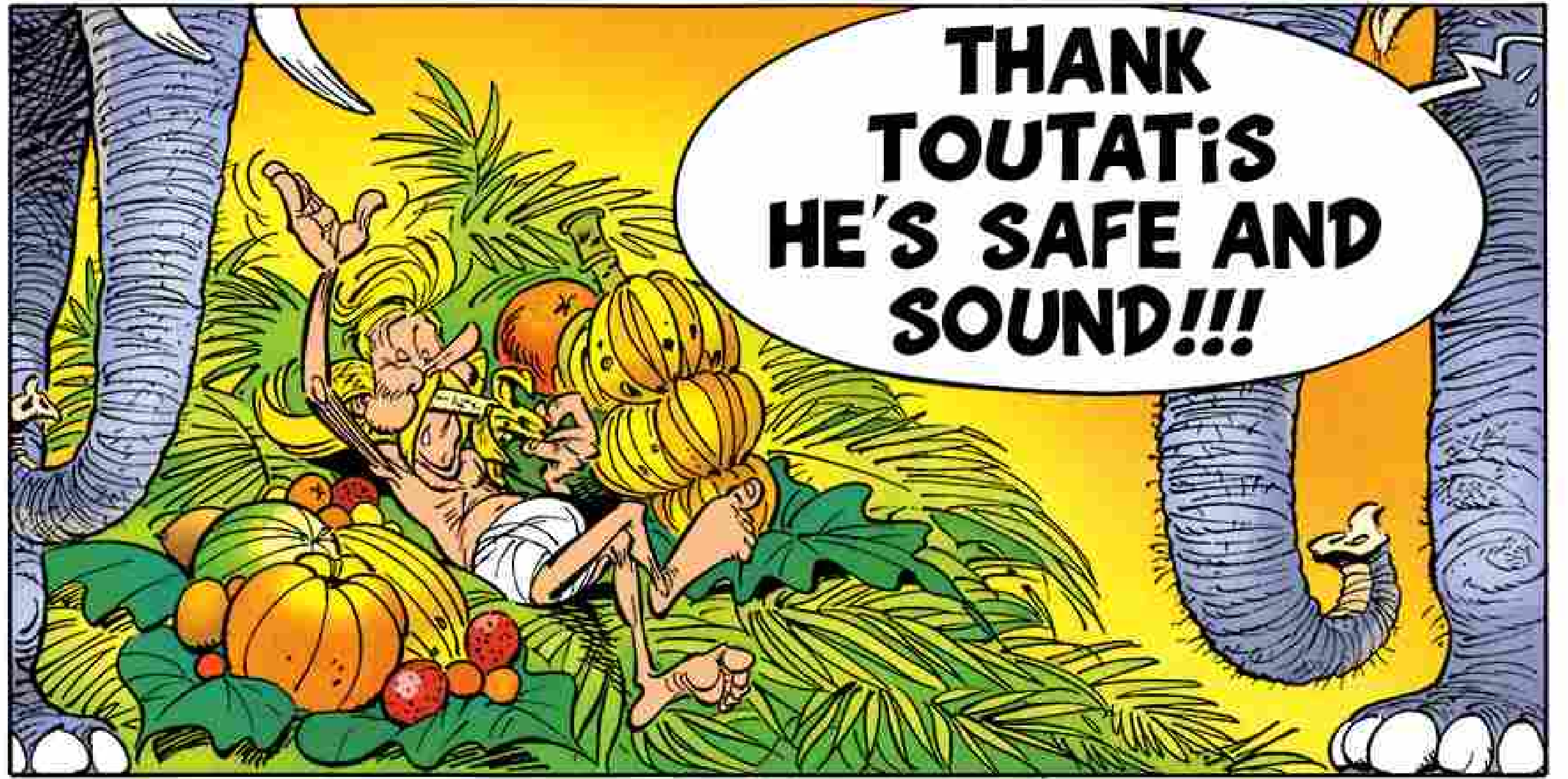


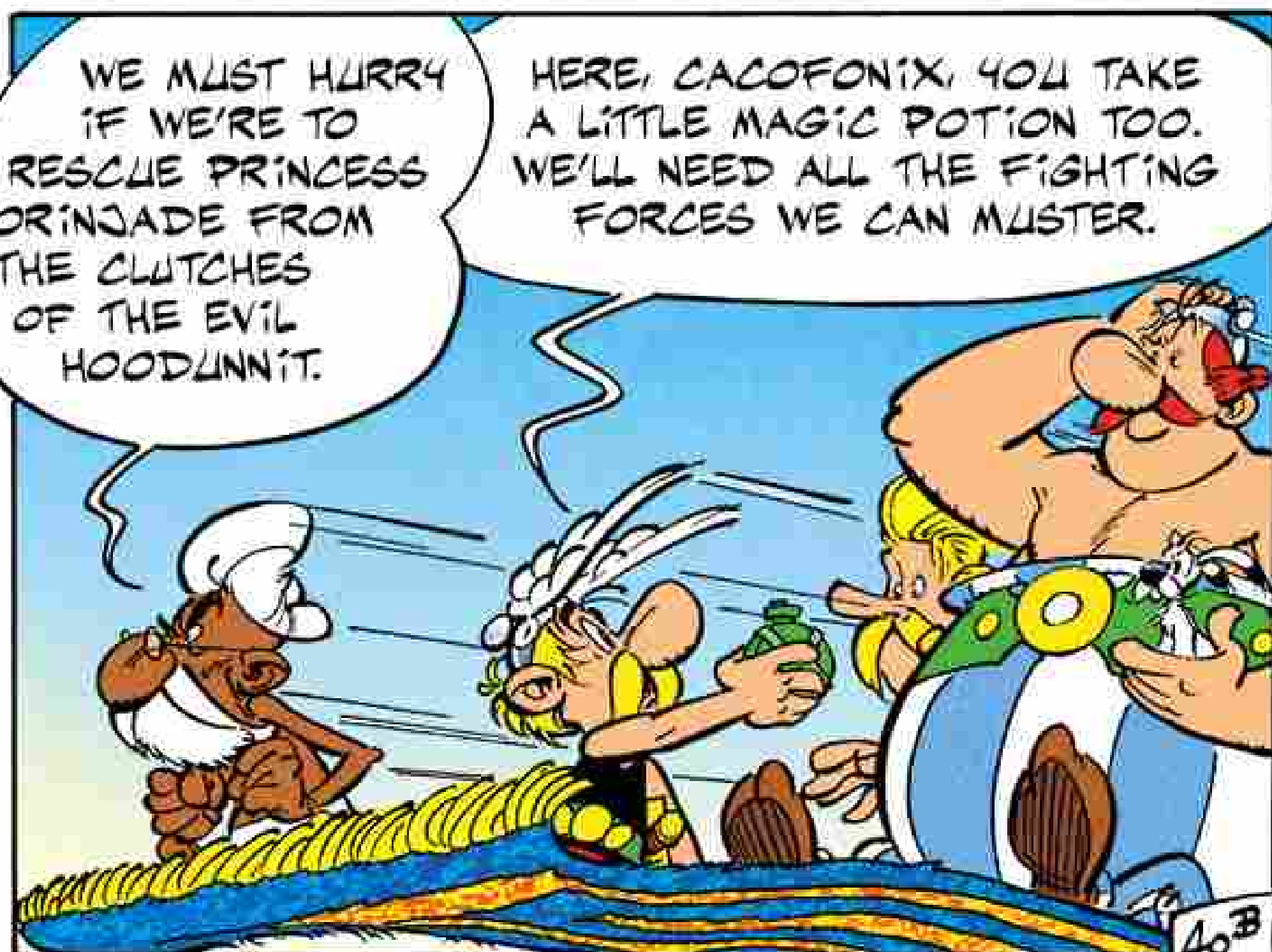
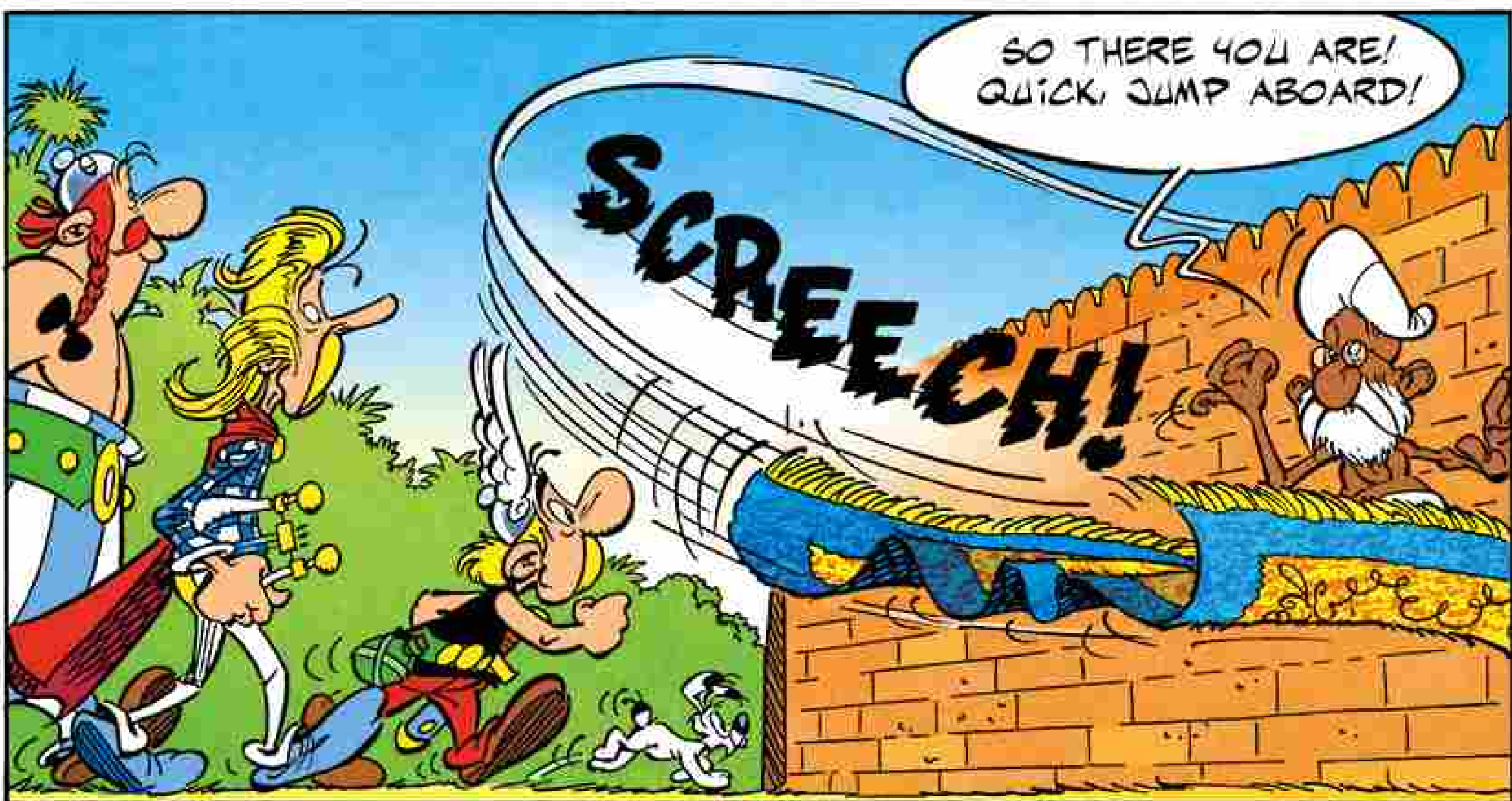
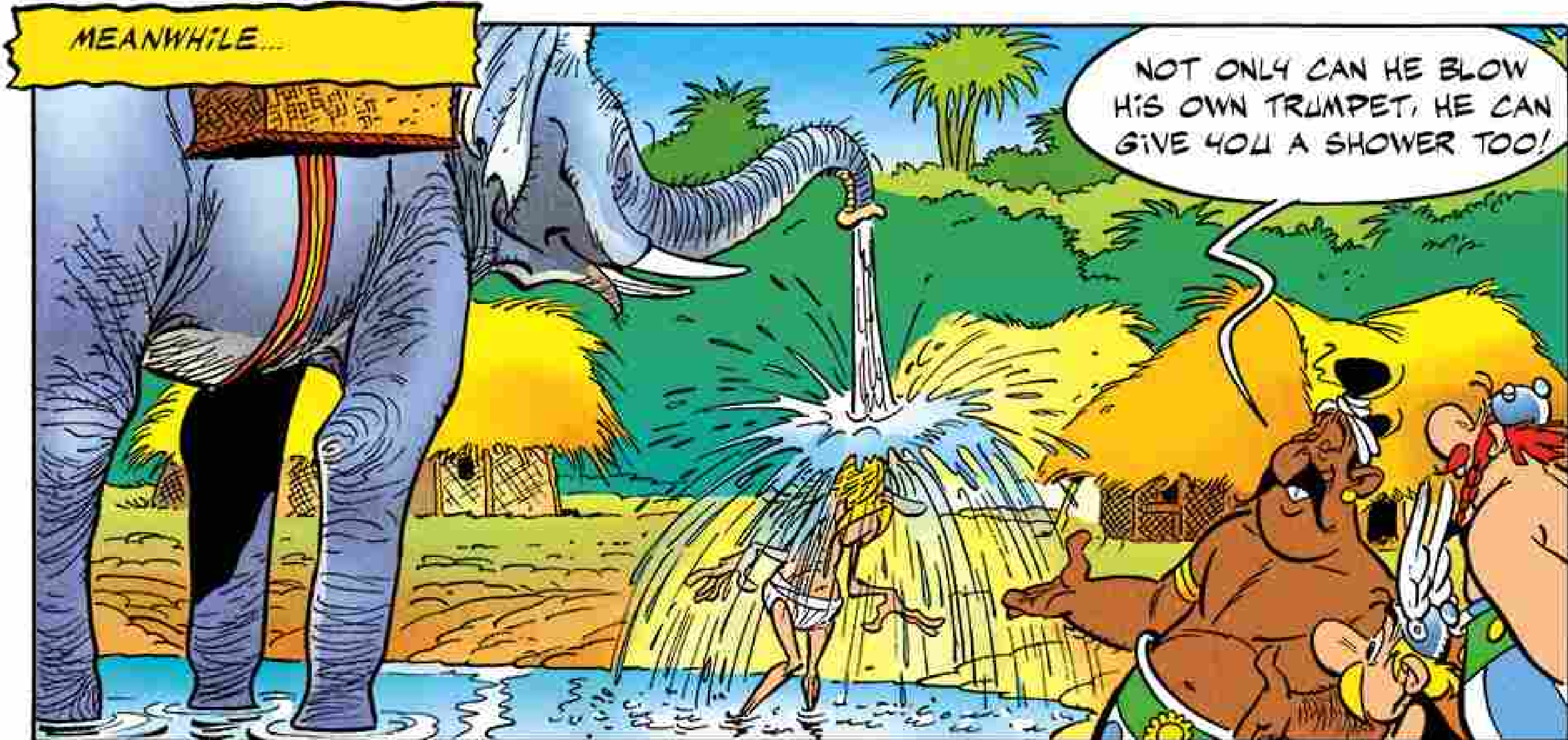
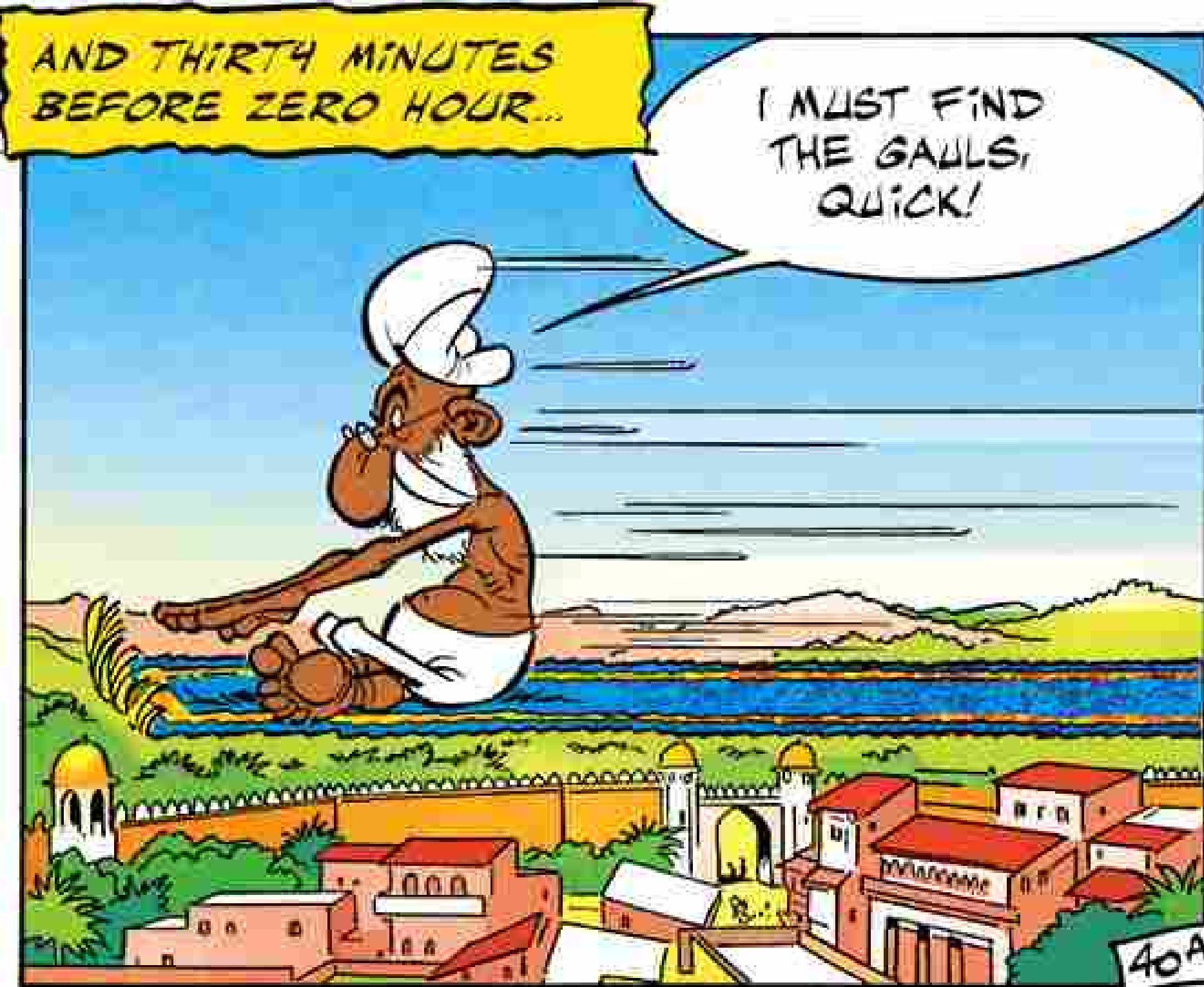
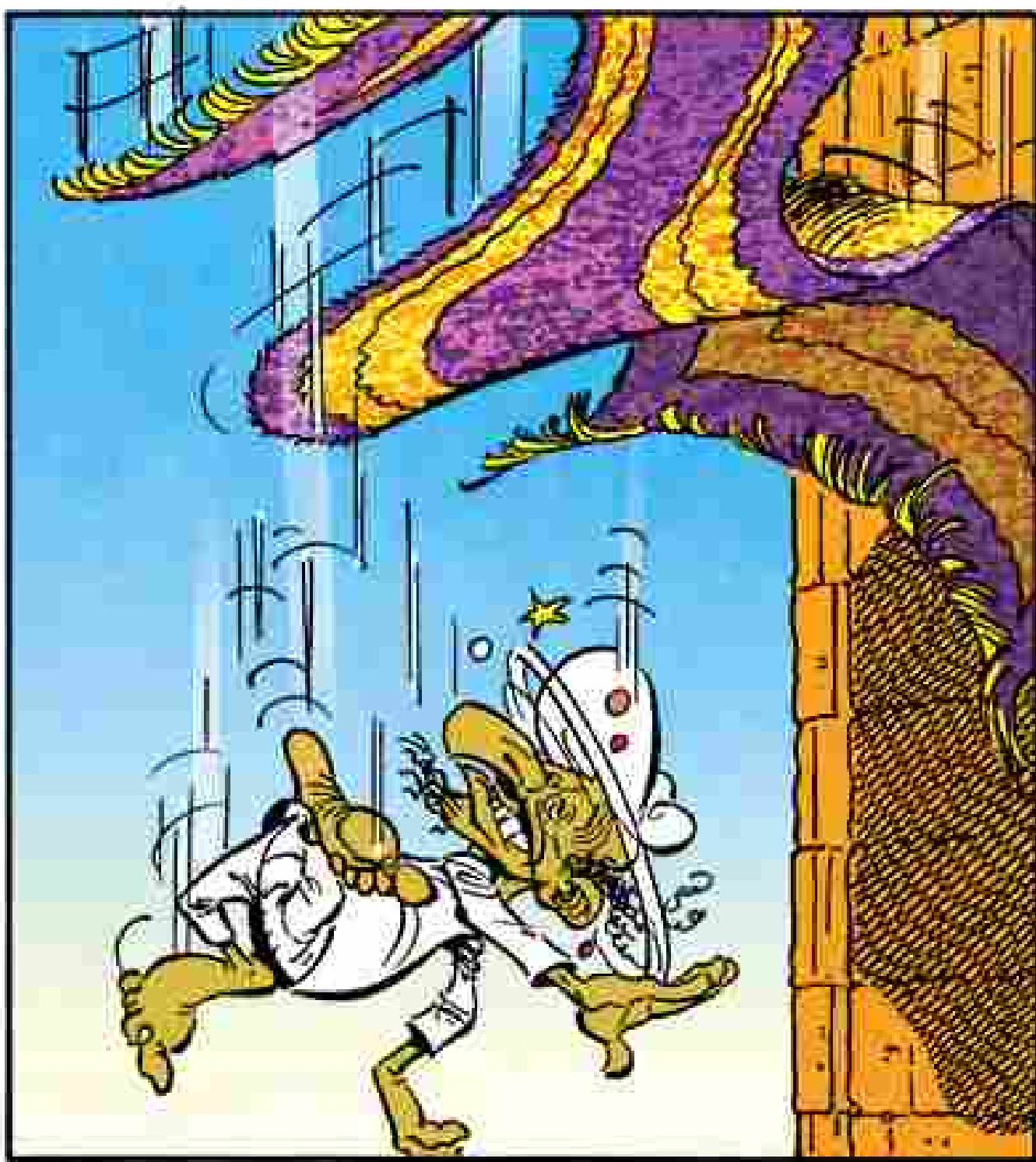
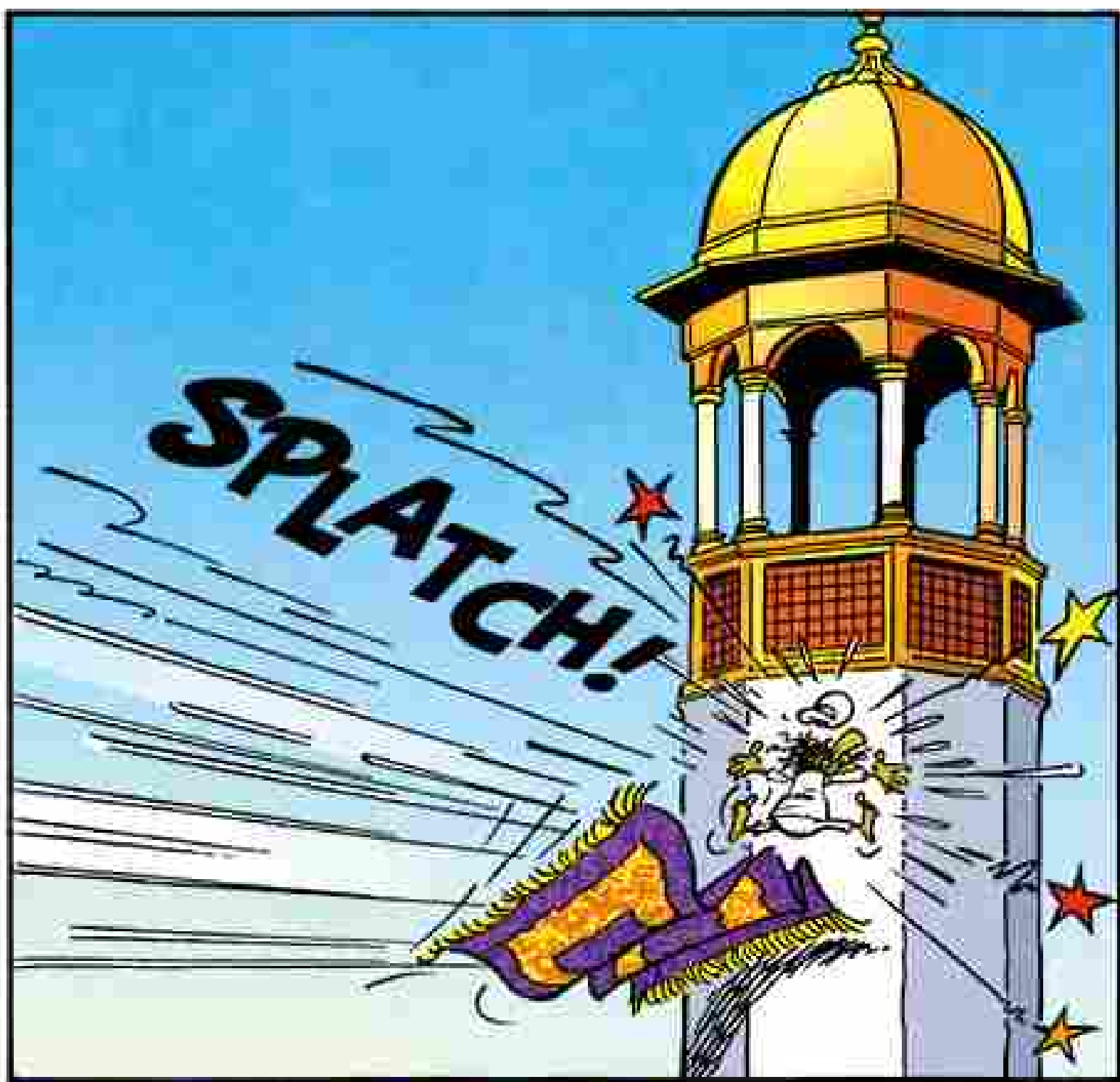
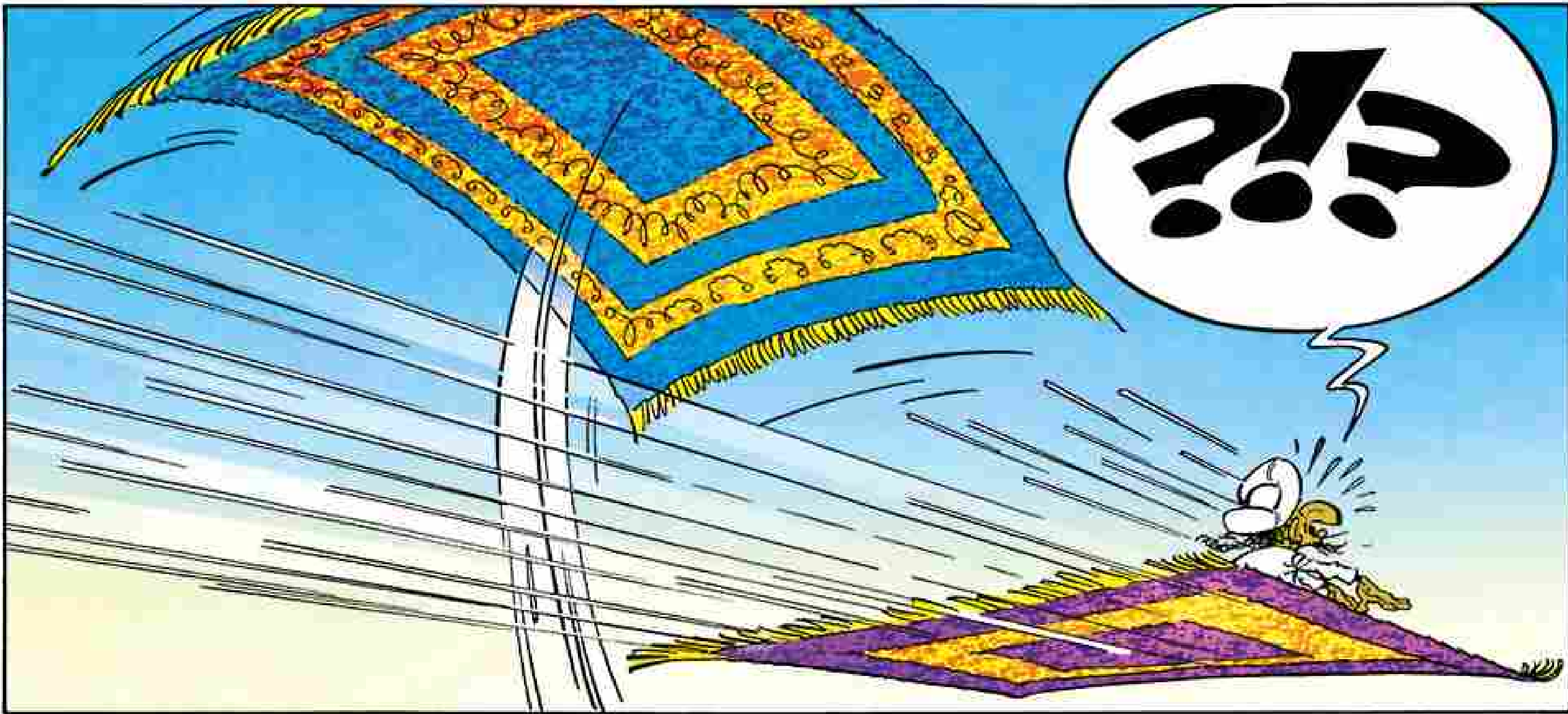


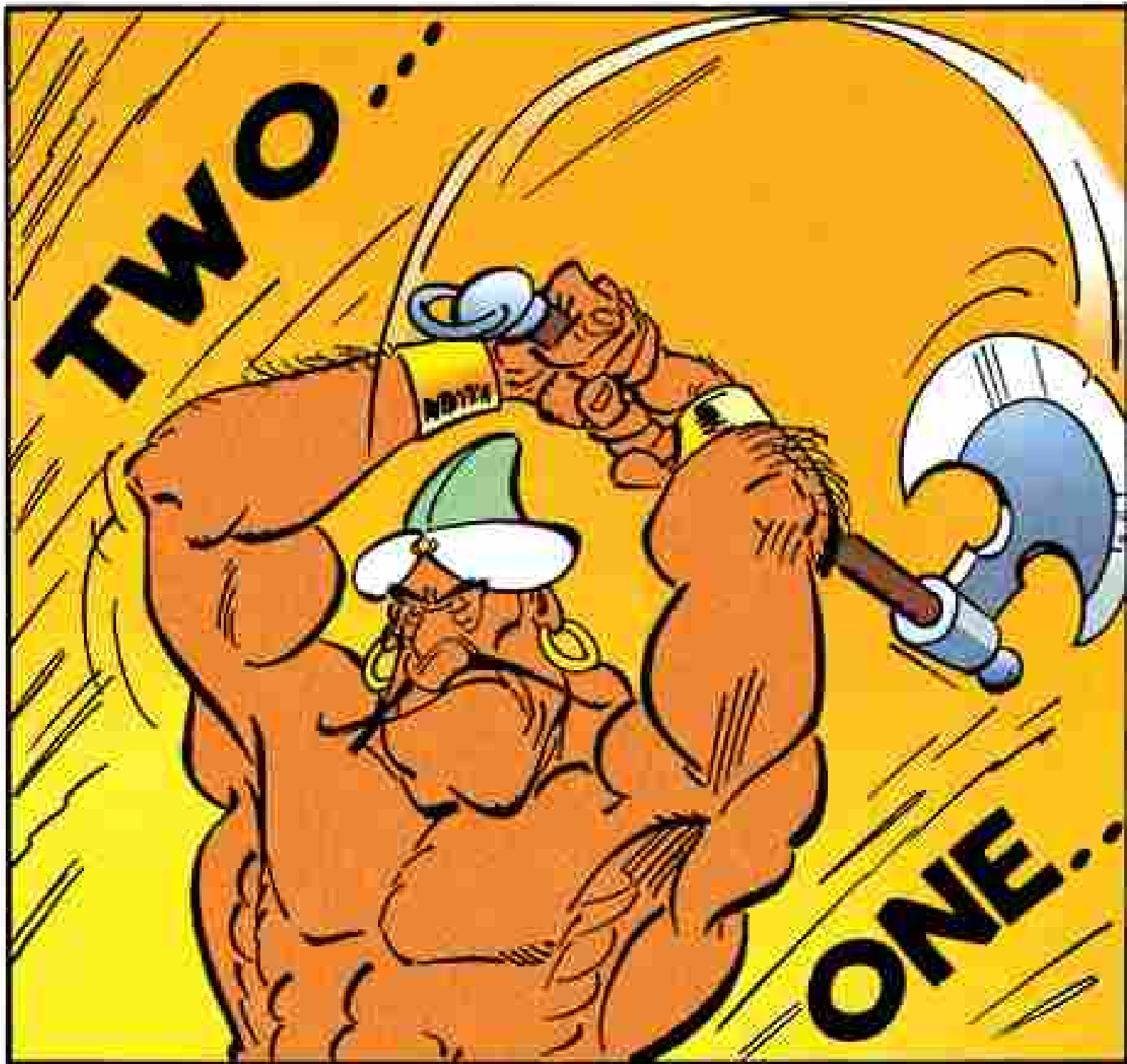
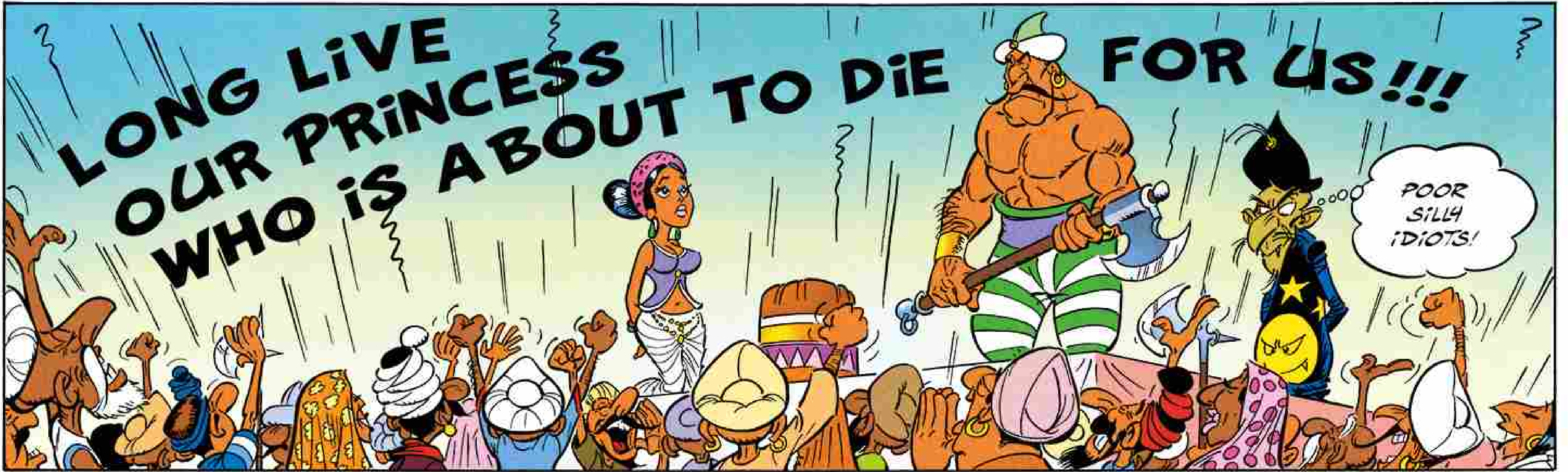
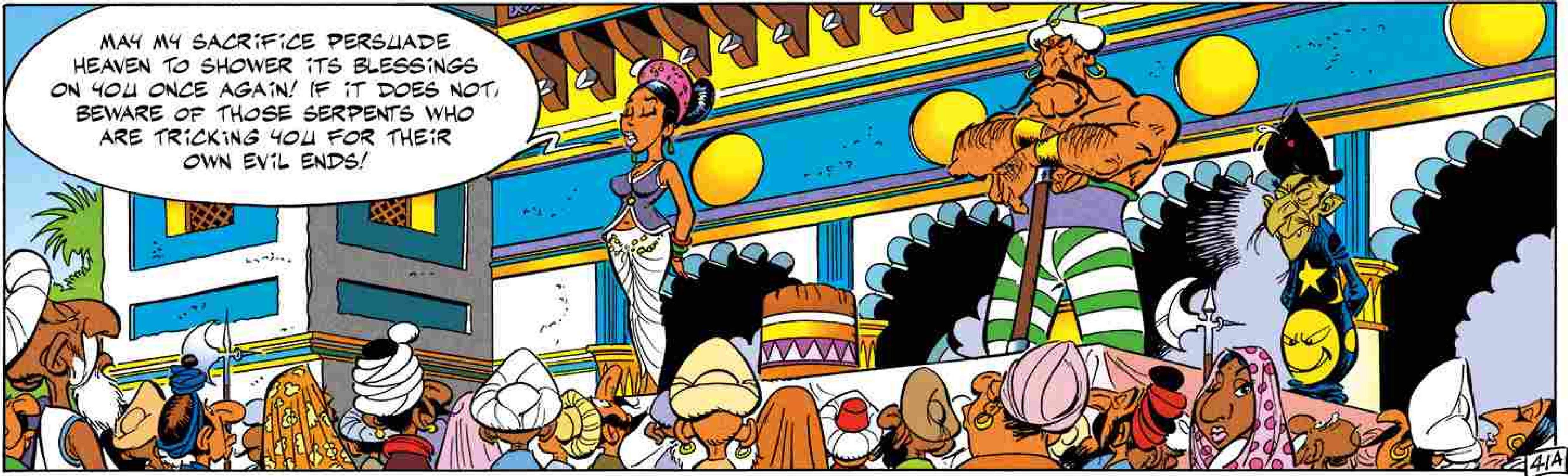


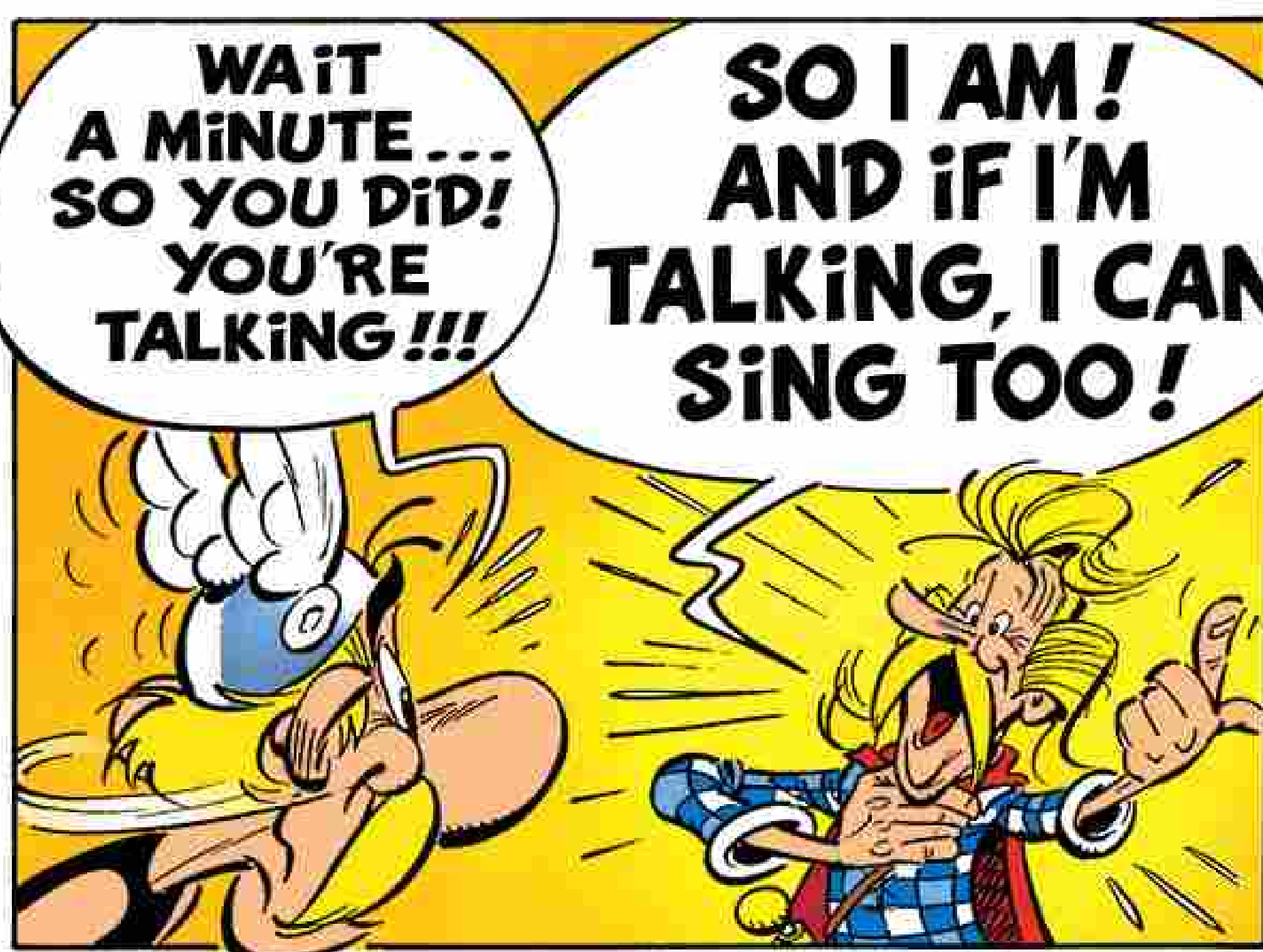
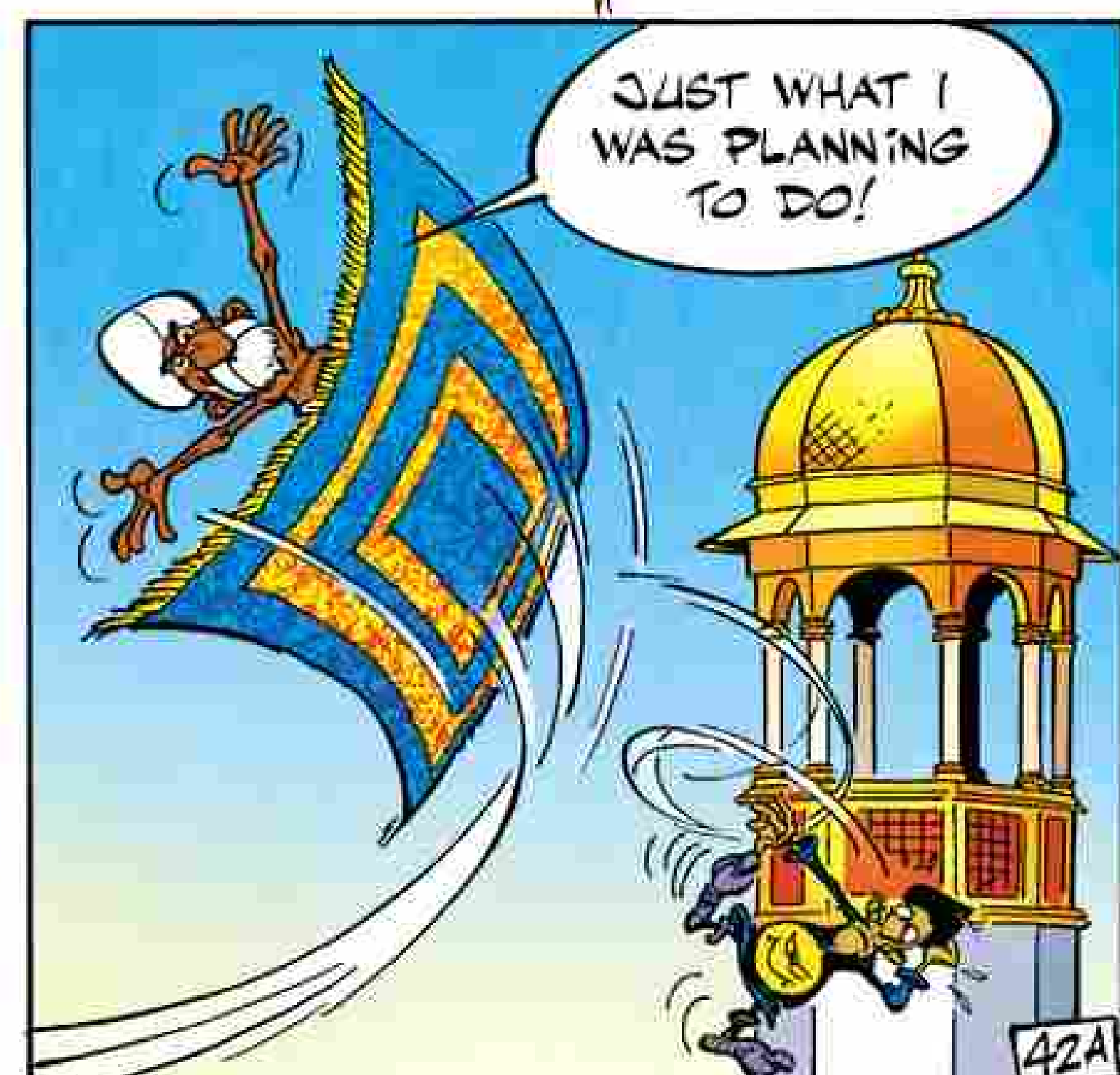
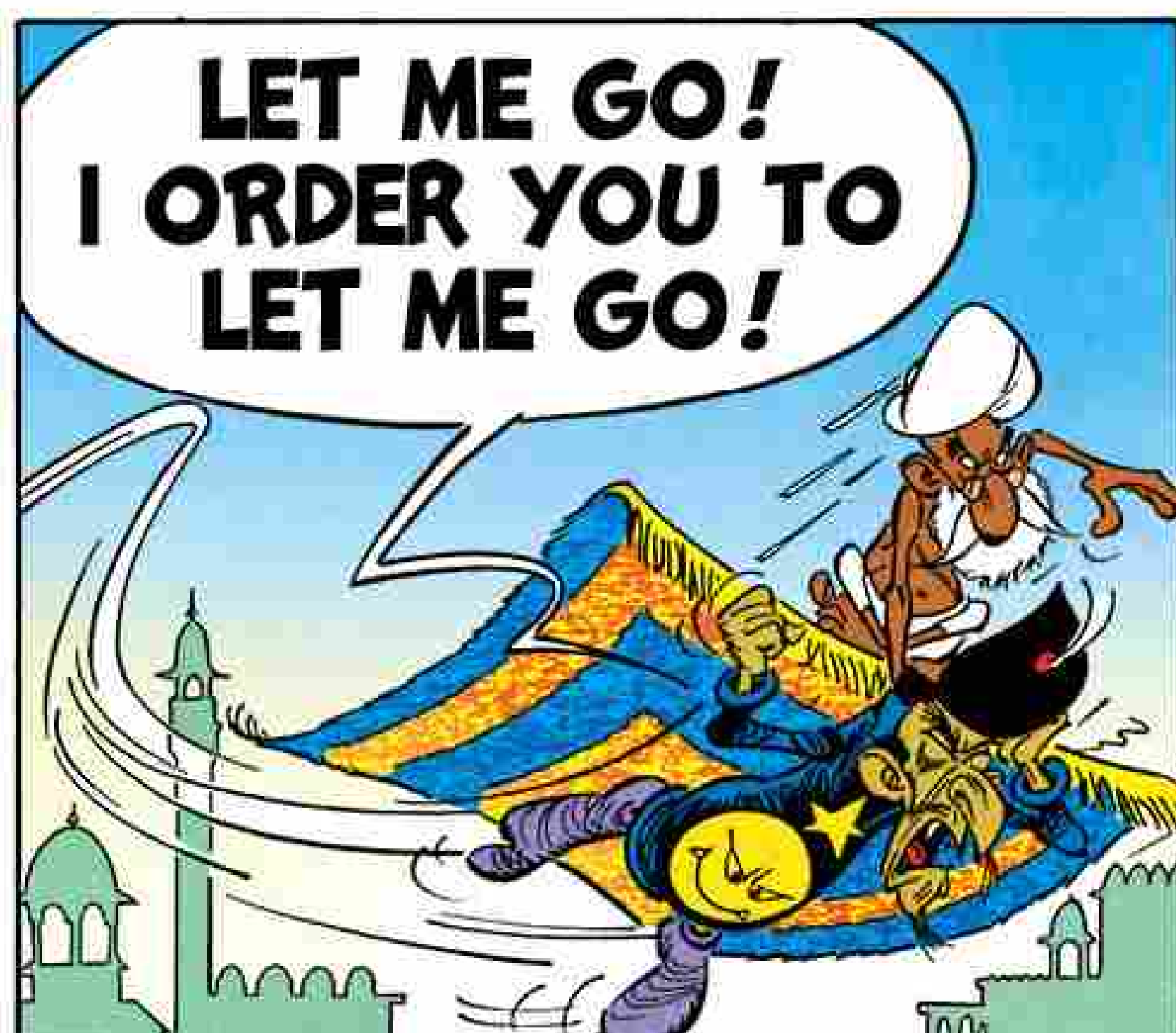
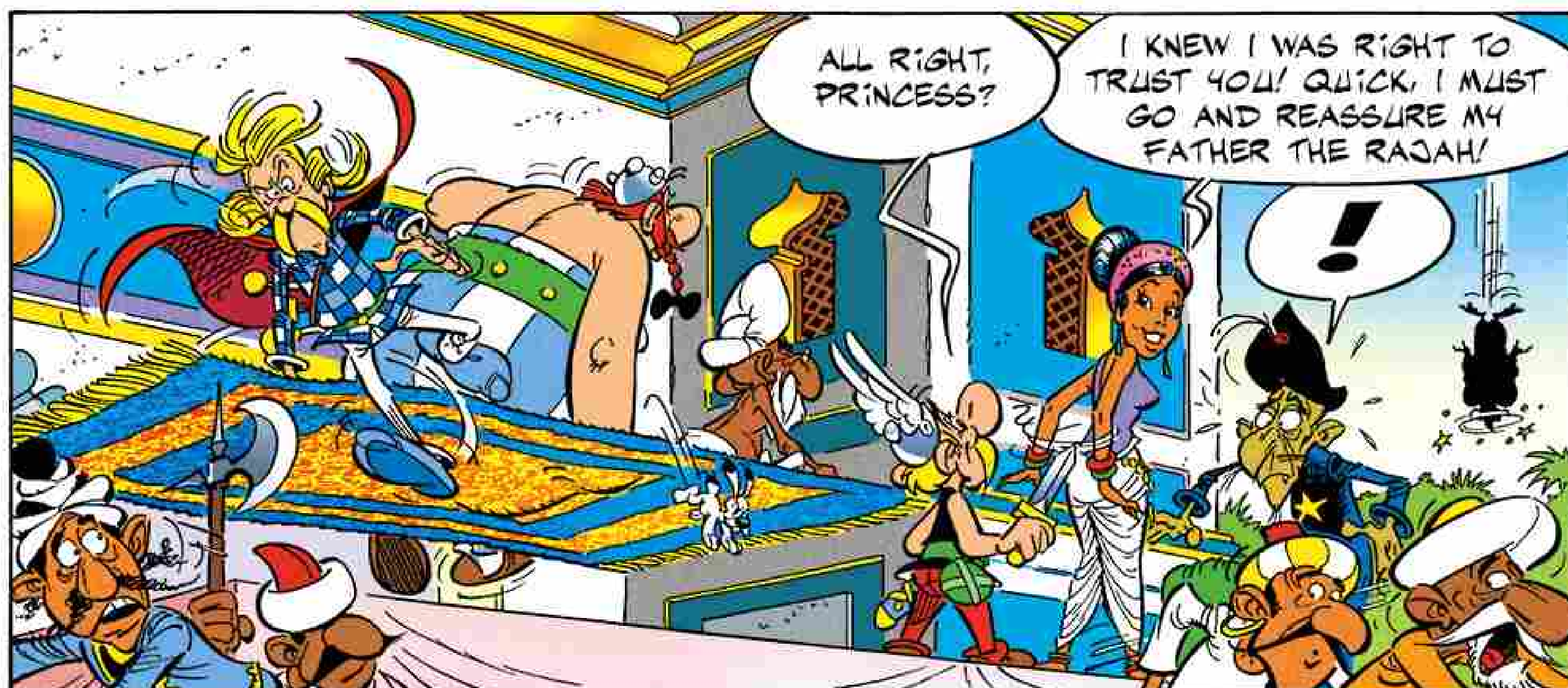




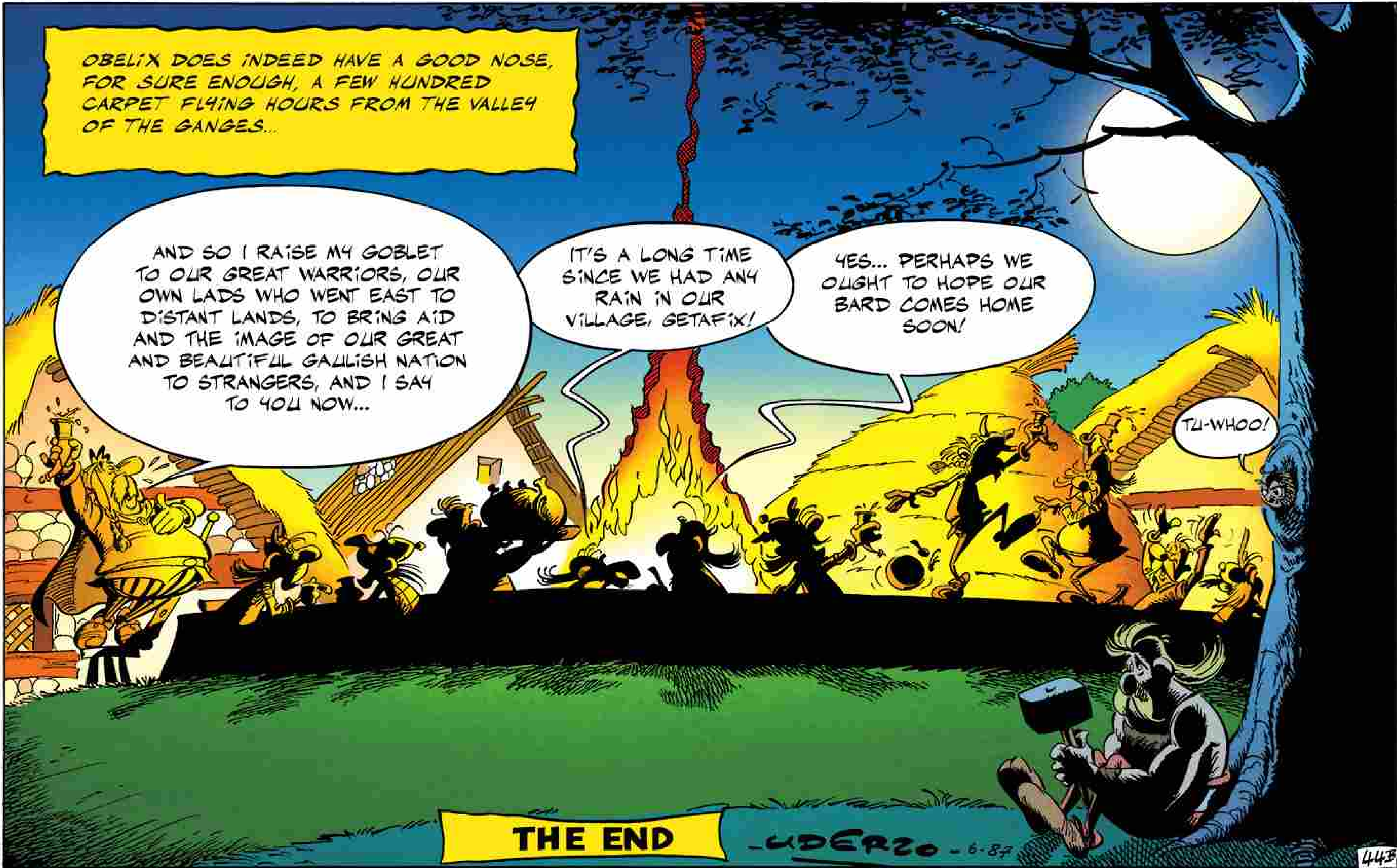
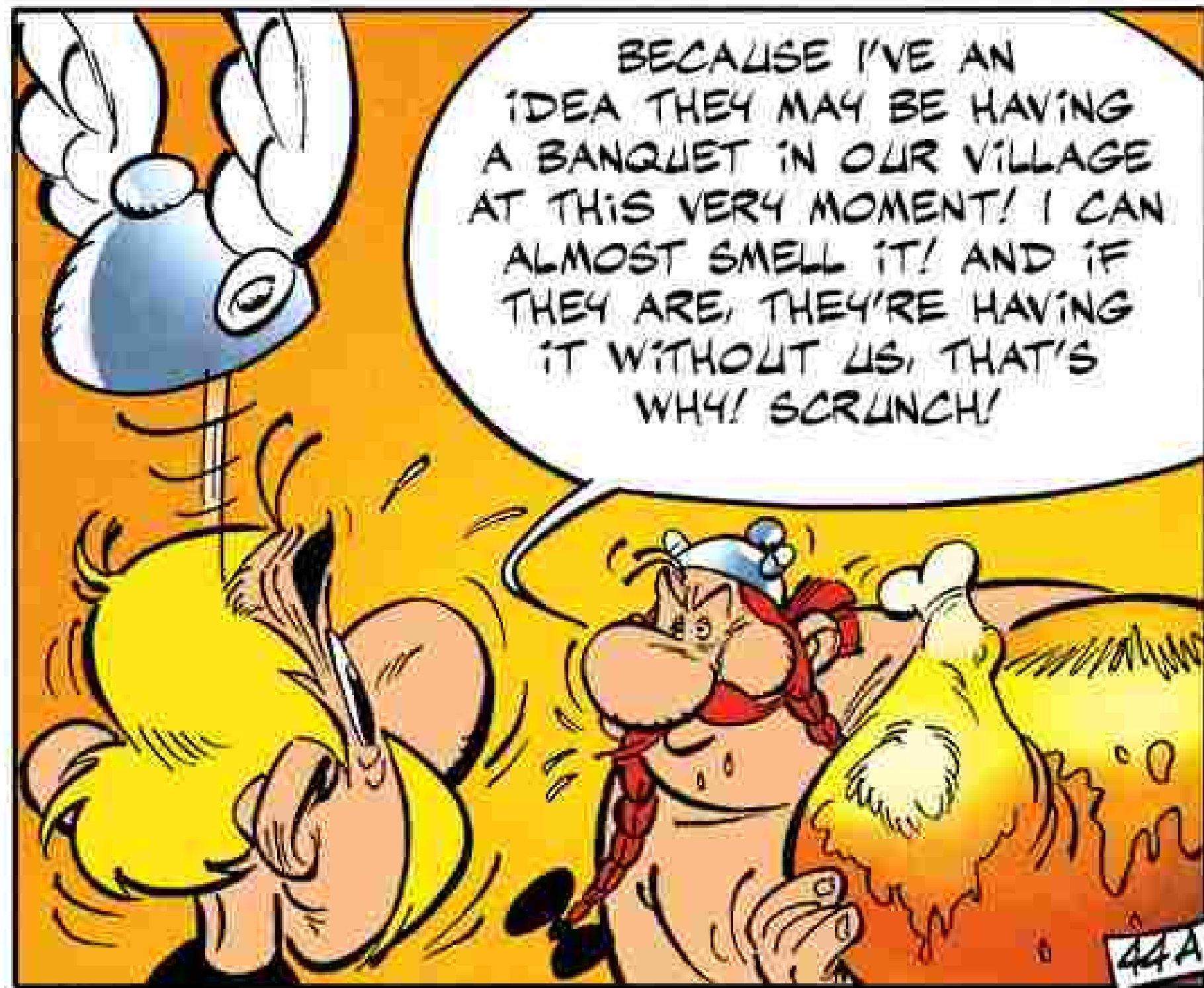
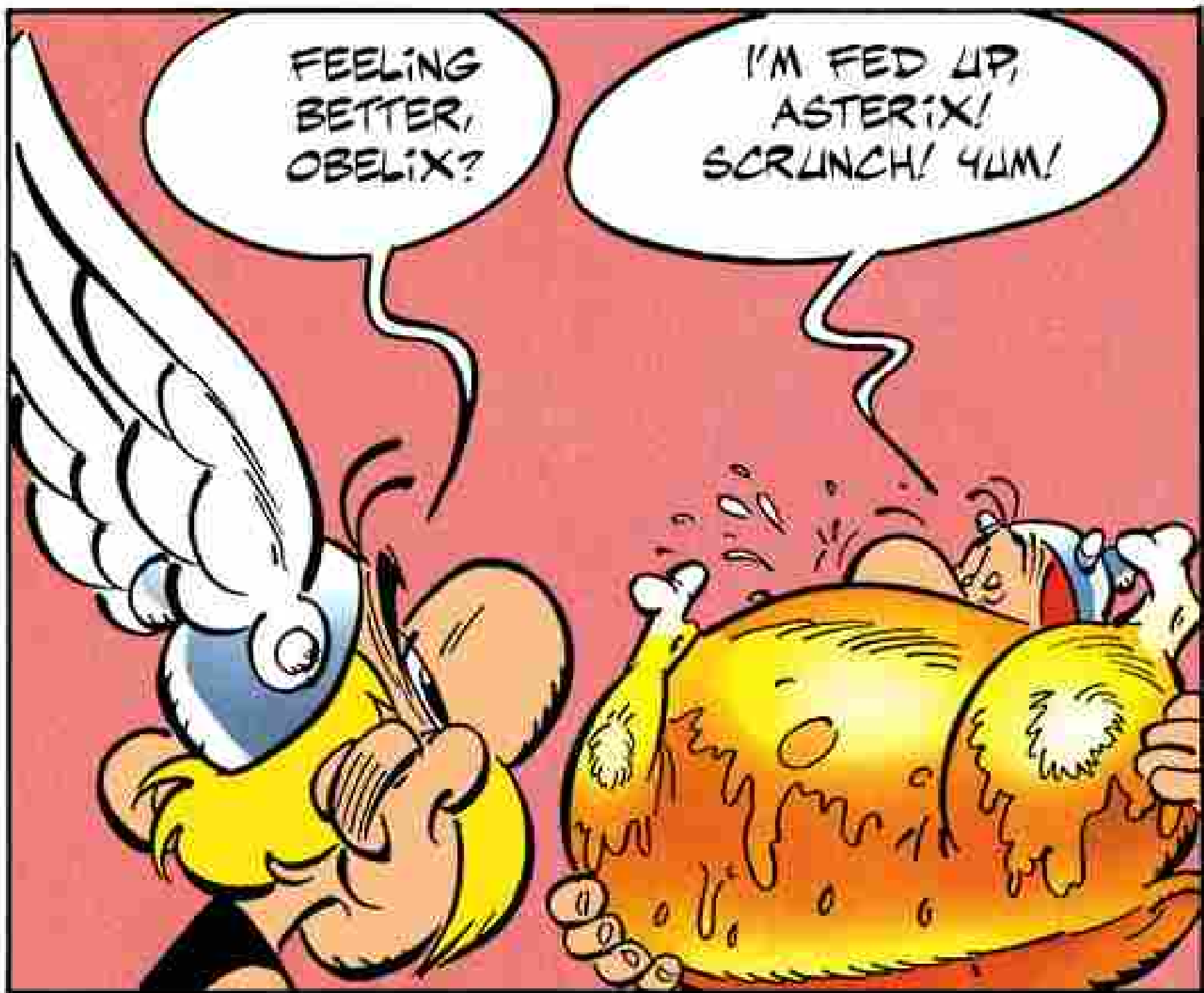
















I FEEL
A BIT WEAK,
GETAFIX ...

NO, OBELIX! YOU
ARE NOT HAVING ANY MAGIC
POTION! YOU KNOW VERY WELL
YOU FELL INTO THE CAULDRON
WHEN YOU WERE A BABY, AND
IT HAD A PERMANENT
EFFECT ON YOU!

Cacofonix's
tuneless singing
always makes it
rain – which is just
what they want
in Rajah Watzit's
distant Eastern
kingdom. The guru
Hoodunnit has
threatened to end
a terrible drought by
sacrificing lovely Princess
Orinjade. Can the Gauls,
flown in on the fakir
Watziznehm's magic
carpet, rescue her? The
bard's finest hour has come!

